

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF GEORGE STRYDIO

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George Strydio for his support and remarkable work in helping others who are living with cancer. Mr. Strydio was honored at the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center's cocktail reception on October 27, 2004, in Bayonne, NJ.

At the age of 67, Mr. Strydio underwent a life-changing experience during a battle with non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, a type of cancer. After surviving chemotherapy, several cases of pneumonia, and other health complications, including learning how to walk again, he decided to channel his energy into helping others with the disease. He devoted two years to visiting cancer patients before determining that he should establish his own support organization, which he named the Community Cancer Support Group.

The group is a valuable resource consisting of a team of people who reach out to offer support, encouragement, and hope to cancer patients. The Community Cancer Support Group holds monthly meetings and brings in guest speakers that address the educational, psychological, spiritual, and medical needs of its members.

Mr. Strydio grew up in Bayonne and was an outstanding high school football and baseball player. At one time a catching prospect for the Brooklyn Dodgers, Mr. Strydio shifted his focus in 1970 to teaching Okinawa-style martial arts called Isshin Ryu. After more than 30 years, he is still teaching at St. Peter's College in Jersey City.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Strydio, a champion in many respects, for his courageous battle with cancer and his establishment of the Community Cancer Support Group.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN AMO HOUGHTON AND CONGRESSMAN JACK QUINN

SPEECH OF

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 19, 2004*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend two colleagues who will not be here when the next congressional session begins—Congressman AMO HOUGHTON and Congressman JACK QUINN. It has been a true honor to work with them. They will be greatly missed.

While we did not share the same political party, that fact never prevented us from working together to improve Upstate New York. These two men had very different back-

grounds: JACK QUINN was a union steelworker and teacher before entering politics; AMO HOUGHTON was head of Corning Glass Works. Yet, they are good friends who have represented the working families in their districts well and with grace.

In 2002, when a State redistricting plan proposed to match these two men against each other, I think their statements at the time reflect their character and friendship:

"In my heart, I don't want to knock out Jack Quinn," HOUGHTON said. "He's an extraordinary guy."

"I hope it is not against my good friend, Amo Houghton," QUINN said. "If it is, I'll just invite him to dinner, maybe take our wives, and talk about what is best for the people of western New York."

Through their committee posts, both moderate Members fought for the interests of New York State.

As the former chairman of a Fortune 500 company, AMO HOUGHTON understood how the Federal Government could play a role in sustaining and creating local businesses. As a senior member on the House Ways and Means Committee, Representative HOUGHTON partnered with me to help create and maintain the wool duty relief program, which is credited with stemming the loss of manufacturing jobs in the suit industry. Duty relief on imported wool suiting fabrics has proven critical to the survival of Hickey-Freeman, a high-end suit manufacturer that has long operated in Rochester.

I was privileged to work closely with Representative QUINN after the redistricting process in 2002 when we came to share the city of Buffalo. JACK went out of his way to introduce me to the area and its people. He is truly the "Big Man from Buffalo." As one example of his effort to improve the local economy, we cohosted a widely attended forum with local manufacturers to discuss what action the Federal Government must take to ensure that western New York and the rest of the United States will remain competitive in the manufacturing sector.

I will miss the partnership I enjoyed with both men, and their decency and respect for this institution. I have heard it said that legislation is the art of compromise, and both of these men understood that principle. We need more people with the ability to reach across the aisle.

I know that this is not the last we will hear from either of them. Both of them still have much to contribute to public discourse and Upstate New York.

I wish both of them the best of luck and continued success in their future endeavors.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN AMO HOUGHTON AND CONGRESSMAN JACK QUINN

SPEECH OF

**HON. VITO FOSSELLA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 19, 2004*

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to my distinguished colleague from the State of New York, Congressman AMO HOUGHTON. He is retiring after 18 years of esteemed public service as the Congressional Representative of the citizens of the 29th District of New York. Prior to his service in the U.S. Congress, Representative HOUGHTON was an established and well respected businessman. A former CEO of a Fortune 500 company, Mr. HOUGHTON was able to bring those skills to Washington to the benefit of the legislative process. His ability to work with both sides of the aisle made him an effective and powerful legislator. Known as a moderate Republican and fiscal conservative, Congressman HOUGHTON actively worked with a coalition of moderate Republicans to pursue meaningful budget reforms. Additionally, history will record Mr. HOUGHTON as one of the early leaders driving reform of the Alternative Minimum Tax. On behalf of the residents of the State of New York, I would like to thank Representative HOUGHTON for his exceptional service in the U.S. Congress. It has been a pleasure to serve with him, and his presence among the New York delegation will be sorely missed. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. HOUGHTON on a job well done, and wish him the very best in the years ahead.

REMOVE WELDON REFUSAL  
CLAUSE FROM OMNIBUS SPENDING BILL

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, last month, the Republican majority pushed through Congress a \$388 billion omnibus spending bill that very few people had a chance to read.

The Weldon provision was slipped into this enormous bill which severely alters the state of reproductive healthcare in this country. It gags America's doctor's and it jeopardize's women's health.

Without education and without knowledge and information, women are being forced to make life-changing decisions about their reproductive health.

This is not only wrong, it's un-American. The Weldon provision is nothing but another attack on a woman's right to choose in an effort to dismantle Roe v. Wade. After all, why is it necessary?

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Federal law already protects medical professionals who refuse to take abortion training.

Is this what American women can look forward to under the new Republican "mandate?"

The rolling back of their fundamental rights, an elimination of their healthcare options, and an undermining of their representation in Congress.

I, for one, certainly hope not, but this action does not look good and should put us all on alert.

I urge my colleagues to remove the Weldon provision from the FY05 Omnibus spending bill.

## IN HONOR OF THE URBAN LEAGUE OF UNION COUNTY

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Urban League of Union County for its exceptional service to the community. The Urban League celebrated its 60th anniversary at the 34th Annual Equal Opportunity Day Dinner on November 12, 2004, in Newark, New Jersey.

The Urban League was originally established to help African Americans secure economic independence and work for civil rights. Decades later, it has grown and expanded to assist the entire community with health needs, employment services, housing assistance, and educational opportunities.

The Urban League offers the residents of Union County a wide range of services to improve their quality of life. The Economic Development and Employment Department offers assistance with interview techniques, job referrals, career counseling, and job placement. In addition, it offers a Summer Youth Employment Program and a Work Opportunity Program for welfare recipients, as well as evening classes on computer literacy.

Working diligently to address important health issues, the Urban League has created the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention and Assistance Program, which works to positively influence teenagers by educating and counseling them about relationships, sexual development, and other related issues.

The organization has also established a Housing Community Development Department, which provides counseling on a variety of housing issues including mortgages, consumer credit and budget management, weatherization, and rental assistance. Other services include grant programs, emergency homeless programs, and Federal Emergency Management Assistance.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Urban League of Union County for six decades of outstanding service to the community. Its extensive services will continue to help improve the lives of countless individuals and families throughout Union County.

## TRIBUTE TO McCULLOUGH WILLIAMS JR. OF YOUNGSTOWN, OH

### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, my remarks today are to pay tribute to the life of my friend, McCullough Williams Jr. of Youngstown, Ohio.

Mr. Williams has long been active in service to the community. He served as Third Ward Councilman, Housing Coordinator for the City of Youngstown, and President of the Youngstown City Board of Education. He was appointed by the Governor to the State of Ohio Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers where he served as President. Mr. Williams was also a member of the National Board for Funeral Directors.

As well as being the founder of the Sterling-McCullough Williams Funeral Homes of Warren and Youngstown, and the former owner of numerous other businesses, Mr. Williams was a member of the Centenary United Methodist Church, where he served as trustee, the Roberts Deliberating Club, Youngstown State University Penguin Club, Charter Member of the Youngstown Mahoning County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Rising Sun Masonic Lodge No. 90 A&FM, Member of the National Parliamentarian Association, and Life Member of the NAACP.

Mr. Williams has been awarded the Buckeye Elks Community Service Award, the U.S. Small Business Administration Ohio Minority Advocate of the Year, the Ohio Expo Businessman of the Year, the Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Leadership Award, the Martin Luther King Jr. Recognition Award, the YWCA Man of the Year Award, NAACP Ebony Man of the Year Award, the Curbstone Coaches Hall of Fame, the Ebony Life Hall of Fame, the YSU Alumni Relations Distinguished Citizen Award, and the Ohio Governor Bob Taft Award for 50 Plus Years of Marriage and Community Service.

Mr. Speaker, I had the honor of attending Mr. Williams' funeral service. It was obvious to everyone who heard his family speak that McCullough Williams was an extraordinary individual who's caring and commitment to the community guided his life of service. His family is a great testament to his life. They will keep his values and passion alive. In short, our community and our country are better off because Mr. Williams lived. My prayers are with Mr. Williams and his family, and we honor his life here today.

## IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4670

### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce letters of endorsement for the Center for Scientific and Technical Assessment Act of 2005 (H.R. 4670). I have introduced the enabling bipartisan legislation with Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. HONDA, Mr. GORDON, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. OLIVER, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. VAN

HOLLEN, Mr. FROST, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. EHLERS.

The Center for Scientific and Technical Assessment would be a bicameral and bipartisan resource providing Congress with highly respected, impartial analysis and assessment of scientific and technical issues and would enable Congress better to oversee the Federal science and technology programs, which receives over \$130 billion, annually. Finally, the Center also would help the Congress to better understand complex technical issues by providing timely information to members of Congress and our Committees before we have to make difficult voting decisions and funding tradeoffs. There is growing support for H.R. 4670 among our Nation's best science and technology professionals. I submit the following letter of endorsement by several professional societies for H.R. 4670:

OCTOBER 7, 2004.

Hon. RUSH HOLT,

*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. AMO HOUGHTON,

*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HOLT AND HOUGHTON: The following engineering professional organizations are writing to express our support for your bipartisan bill, H.R. 4670, to establish a Center for Scientific and Technical Assessment (CSTA).

America's national security and economic well-being demand that the United States remain the world's leaders in advanced technology in the 21st century. However, technological development is advancing with unprecedented speed and complexity in a truly global environment and other countries, for the first time in U.S. history, are now threatening America's scientific and technological preeminence. Members of Congress, now more than ever, need to have access to objective, timely, and sound science, engineering and technology-related assessment pertinent to legislation and the complex policy issues before them.

The sheer volume and complexity of the technological data facing federal legislators necessitate some mechanism for balanced, non-partisan and technologically-informed analysis provided in a judicious manner. A Center for Scientific and Technical Assessment as envisioned in H.R. 4670 would satisfy these criteria by operating under the highly respected Government Accountability Office (GAO), being overseen by a bipartisan, bicameral Technical Assessment Board (TAB) consisting of Members of Congress and the Comptroller General of the GAO, to provide nonpartisan peer reviews of all CSTA reports.

We are encouraged that this bill takes into consideration the GAO's successful technical assessment pilot program as well as the GAO study "Technology Assessment: Providing Independent Assessments of Technologies," for guidance when crafting this legislation. We feel that H.R. 4670, if passed, would provide a valuable service to members of the House and Senate in making informed decisions on the complex technological issues of the times.

We look forward to working with you and your staff in advancing this important legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES).

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE).

American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

Federation of Materials Societies (FMS).  
 The Institute of Electrical and Electronics  
 Engineers—United States of America (IEEE-  
 USA).  
 National Society of Professional Engineers  
 (NSPE).  
 Optical Society of America.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE BIRTH-  
 DAY OF MRS. LENA ROBERT  
 MURRELL-WHITE

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the American mother in the embodiment of Mrs. Lena Roberta Murrell-White. She has raised nine children and has nurtured a throng of grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her labor helped to build ships during World War II, supported the effort during the Korean War, sent a son off to the Vietnam War and provided more sons and daughters that have helped to build the American economy. Through her strong faith in a loving God she has brought light to her community in Camden, New Jersey. Mrs. Murrell-White was born and raised in the great State of North Carolina. She spent her formative years in the town of Greenville in Pitt County, North Carolina. Upon graduation from high school she moved to Camden, New Jersey where she married and raised her family. Now, at the age of 84 this paragon of mothers has neither slackened her pace, eased her resolve nor retreated an inch. She remains faithful to the Lord, committed to her family and solidly supports her community. So today she is to be commended for her efforts and receive the heartfelt gratitude of the Congress of the United States of America.

IN HONOR OF NICK STARITA

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nick Starita for his exceptional community service and passion for helping others. Mr. Starita was honored at the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center's cocktail reception on October 27, 2004, in Bayonne, New Jersey.

Mr. Starita has devoted more than 30 years of service to the United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) Association of Hudson County. During his extensive time at UCP, he has helped the organization expand and diversify its services. His contributions include helping UCP establish a second facility, securing greater accessibility to therapy services, and developing new programs to better serve Hudson County residents. The organization also offers an Adult Special Needs Program to help those who are developmentally disabled and require special medical assistance, and a day care program that works with both able-bodied and disabled children. The time and passion Mr. Starita has dedicated to UCP throughout the years has transformed the organization into an extensive network that includes three facilities and serv-

ices ranging from advocacy to accessible transportation. Mr. Starita has demonstrated his strong leadership skills as UCP's executive director for the past 16 years and previously, as a member of the Board of Directors for 13 years.

Always striving to help others, Mr. Starita has volunteered at the A. Harry Moore School and served on the boards of numerous community and civic organizations, including the State Interagency Coordinating Council, the Alliance for the Betterment of Citizens with Disabilities, the Center for Enabling Technology, and the Boy Scouts Council, to name a few.

Mr. Starita has received awards from numerous organizations for his work, including the United Way of Hudson County, the PTA, the New Jersey State Parent Advisory Council for the Handicapped, and the Latin American Kiwanis Club of West New York.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Nick Starita for his outstanding service and tireless efforts to help the United Cerebral Palsy Association successfully achieve its mission to serve the people of Hudson County.

HONORING WORK AND LIFE OF DR.  
 MELVIN DYSTER

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to honor the work and life of Dr. Melvin Dyster of Niagara Falls, New York, a family practitioner, who this past weekend was honored by the Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center for 50 years of practicing medicine.

Dr. Dyster is 77 years old and still makes early morning rounds seven days a week at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, sees patients at his office, and students at Niagara University in Lewiston, New York.

Dr. Dyster has had many accomplishments over the years. He started a Family Practice Residency Program in 1976 at the hospital to avert a shortage of primary care doctors. He became involved with a fledgling migrant worker clinic 25 years ago. He secured donated drugs for the clinic, and encouraged residents and medical students to become involved with the clinic, the County Health Department, and Memorial Medical Center, which now sends its mobile clinic to the farms in the area.

His accomplishments have led to many honors and awards. In 1995, Dr. Dyster was recognized as Doctor of the Year by the New York State Academy of Family Practice. He has received an honorary doctorate degree from Niagara University and the University of Buffalo Medical School Dean's Award for community involvement. He also received the Niagara University College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Award for his establishment of the Dr. Melvin B. Dyster Health Science Resource Center in 2003.

Dr. Dyster goes out of his way to provide services for those in need, working at the Hamilton Mizer Primary Care Center in Niagara Falls, which serves predominantly inner city residents.

Dr. Dyster is a consultant for the Niagara Falls City Task Force for Bioterrorism Pre-

paredness, a member of Niagara County's Health Emergency Alert Response Team and an advisor on Memorial's Disaster Planning Committee.

Dr. Dyster's efforts on behalf of the Niagara Falls community extend beyond the medical world; he was instrumental in saving the former Niagara Falls High School from demolition, which has become a well used arts and cultural center.

Dr. Dyster is a retired full colonel in the Army Reserve and was chief of staff at the 865th General Hospital at the Niagara Falls Air Base.

I am honored to have such a caring and compassionate man as Dr. Dyster live and work in my district.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN AMO  
 HOUGHTON AND CONGRESSMAN  
 JACK QUINN

SPEECH OF

**HON. VITO FOSSELLA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 19, 2004*

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to one of my distinguished colleagues from the State of New York, Congressman JACK QUINN. In his six terms as Representative of the 27th District of New York, Congressman QUINN brought a strong and well respected voice to the United States Congress. His good nature and approachability made him a pleasure to work with, for both sides of the aisle. As Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Railroads, Mr. QUINN fought to preserve Amtrak as part of our Nation's infrastructure and worked tirelessly towards ensuring the safety of our railroads. He has used his seat on the Committee on Veterans to bring about needed reforms for our veterans and to raise awareness and appreciation of our Nation's heroes and their sacrifices. His role as Chairman of the House Republican Working Group on Labor provided an important link to keep the lines of communication open between labor leaders and the Republican party. Beyond his legislative accomplishments, Congressman QUINN made service to his constituents the cornerstone of his office, and it is this service that will be his legacy. On behalf of the residents of New York, I would like to thank Mr. QUINN for his exceptional service to the United States Congress. His presence, both in the House and within the New York delegation will be greatly missed. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. QUINN on 12 remarkable years of service, and in wishing him and his family all the best in the years to come.

HONORING THE RECIPIENTS OF  
 THE 2004 EXCEPTIONAL MERIT IN  
 MEDIA AWARDS

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winners of the 18th Annual

Exceptional Merit in Media Awards (EMMAs) which were presented by the National Women's Political Caucus earlier this year. This prestigious honor is given for excellence in media coverage of women's issues.

The 2004 EMMA honorees include:

The Liz Claiborne Award for Outstanding Reporting on Violence Against Women: Marie Claire, Lesley Jane Seymour, Editor-in-Chief.

Magazine Story, Winner: "Code of Dishonor", Clara Bingham, Vanity Fair Magazine.

Television, Exceptional Feature Story: "He Said, She Said", Melissa Cornick, ABC News.

Magazine Story, Runner-up: "Your Body is a Battle Ground", Kimberly Sevcik, Self Magazine.

Television, Exceptional Documentary: "Our Lifetime Commitment: Stop Violence Against Women", Denise Young Farrell, Lifetime Television.

Magazine Story, Runner-up: "Are You Ready to Really Understand Abortion", Allison Brower, Glamour.

Radio Segment: "Shoshone Sisters Fight for Land", Susan Shepard, Living on Earth, NPR.

Television, Special Topics: "Final Justice with Erin Brockovich, #315", LMNO Productions, Larry Goldman, VP Corporate Communications.

Special, Print: "Violently Ill", Jennifer Wolff, Self Magazine.

Television, News Story: "Women and the Media", PBS to the Contrary Television, Cari Stein, VP Corporate Communications.

Newspaper, Exceptional Feature Story: "The Complete Anita Hill", Florence Graves, freelance writer, 1994 EMMAs winner, The Boston Globe.

I was thrilled to have been a part of this special event by paying tribute to journalists who write meaningful and groundbreaking articles about issues affecting women. I believe that they should be commended for their talents, and I look forward to reading more of their work in the future.

#### IN HONOR OF COOKIE DAUGHTREY

#### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Mrs. Cookie Daughtrey for her dedicated work in serving the community and those in need. Ms. Daughtrey was honored at the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center's cocktail reception on October 27, 2004, in Bayonne, New Jersey.

Mrs. Daughtrey was known for her tireless efforts to help those less fortunate than herself. Even as a child, she reached out to others and would often invite underprivileged peers over for dinner. She greatly helped the citizens of Bayonne by matching people with service organizations that offered the food, shelter, healthcare, or substance abuse treatment they needed. In addition, she coordinated food drives in City Hall for the past five years.

With a passion for community involvement, Mrs. Daughtrey participated in numerous

groups, including the New Frontier Democrats, Ireland's 32, and the HIGHWAYS program. Additionally, she volunteered extensively at the Bayonne Democratic Organization and was on the Board of Directors for the Bayonne Community Day Nursery.

Born and raised in Bayonne, Mrs. Daughtrey worked as a welfare investigator for the city for 27 years, and was employed at Woolworth's department store.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the late Cookie Daughtrey for her deep commitment to serving others in her community. Her years of volunteerism helped countless individuals and she will be remembered fondly by all who knew her.

#### TRIBUTE TO WARREN G. HARDING HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

#### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, my remarks today are to pay tribute to the Warren G. Harding High School "Raider" Marching Band from Warren, Ohio.

On November 25th, Thanksgiving Day, 2004, the "Raider" Marching Band represented Ohio's 17th District as it marched down Broadway in midtown Manhattan during the 78th Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The "Raider" Band was one out of 10 bands to be selected nationwide out of approximately 500 applicants annually. With 201 members strong, the band played "On Broadway" as it stopped in Herald Square to showcase its talent for the millions of onlookers and viewers at home. The event was aired live on NBC Thanksgiving Day.

Lynn G. Marlin is the Director of Bands at Warren G. Harding High School. A graduate from the Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music in Youngstown, Ohio, and Marygrove College in Detroit, she has been leading and instructing the band for 10 years and has been teaching for 30 years. Richard J. Rollo is the assistant Director of the Bands and also the head of the jazz department where he has been teaching for 22 years. He is an alumnus of Youngstown State University and Vandercook College of Music in Chicago. The percussion instructor is Mr. Kevin Kifer, majorette instructors are Nicole Horner and Amy Namola, and the "Raider" flag line instructors are Erika Campolito and Nikki Wynn.

In addition to outstanding musical accomplishment, the "Raider" Marching Band shows great strides toward high academic achievement. This year's winner of the Bob Hope/Macy's Foundation Band Scholarship is Aaron Baer, a senior at Warren G. Harding High School. Each band in the parade selected one student who best represented all of the great qualities of Bob Hope including leadership, musical talent, humor, and activeness in community service. Mr. Baer was selected by the "Raider" band and represented Warren G. Harding in the scholarship competition, winning a \$5,000 scholarship based on an essay he submitted. The Bob Hope/Macy's Founda-

tion also donated \$5,000 to the "Raider" Band.

Students who participated in the 78th Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade:

Tanasha Alexander, Noora Alie, Alicia Allen, Ariel Austin, Aaron Baer, Doug Baker, Beth Balas, Loryn Baldwin, Desa Banish, Kristen Banks, Ashlee Barksdale, Sarah Beitzel, Terrance Belser, Tern Belser, Taryn Benson, Jessica Benson, Amy Binko, Leracia Blalock, Joanna Bland, Rheadus Bland, Carin Boros, Frank Bosak, Daniel Bozek, Shala Brantley, Jazzmon Britton, Tim Brogdon, Jessica Brown, LaSheana Brown, Ashley Browning, Jessica Browning, James Brutz, Jordan Butler, Brittany Caimona, Vicki Capranica, Monique Carducci, Christopher Cargill, Justin Cargill, Samuel Carr, Jamie Carter, Meghan Caswell, Brianna Catheline, Megan Chambers, Ryan Chambers, Stephen Chappell, Daniel Clever, Joey Cluckey, Bethany Clucky, Ashley Coleman, Kendra Coleman, Lamar Coleman, Angela Collazo, Amanda Comanescu, Chelsea Comanescu, Greg Dailey, Avery Danage, Zack Darno, James Davis, Matthew Davis, Dominique DeSanti, Savontae Diggs, Brittany Dowe, Stephen Drake, Dennis Drummond, Chris Dudley, Elissa Dukes, Matthew Dukes, Shani Dukes, Jessica Dunewood, Marcella Economos, Dillon Fishel, Megan Fishel, Gina Fisher, Meranda Gedded, Alycia Geddes, Gerry Gianoutos, Lindsey Glenn, Rickisha Goliday, Ciarra Grubbs, Autumn Hall, Chasity Hall, Patricia Hampton, Aron Hamrick, Courtney Harrel, Brian Harris, Krystyne Harris, Pasha Harris, Wil Harris, Mandy Hawkins, Camille Heller, Jordan Hice, Stephanie Horkey, Alicia Howard, Kaitlynn Hummel, Mark Hummel, Sara Hummel, Brittany Jackson, Jeremy Johnson, Tiara Jones, Alysha Joseph, Brittany Joseph, Tommy Kearns, Janelle Kellar, Brandon Kingery, Angela Knepper, Deanna Kuzenko, Justin Kuptz, Caritta Lewis, Amanda Lichty, Alexandria Limperos, Ebony Liptrot, Ricky Logan, Victoria Lopez, Ray Marchek, Thomas Mason, Jasmine Mauzy, Kellie McAllister, Tyeccchia McBride, Marc McCarty, Brittany McDaniel, Jessica McDougal, Robert McIver, Meghan McKenzie, Tabbitha Merten, Kiera Moore, Tonya Mocella, Sarah Moreton, Elizabeth Mosly, Donald Motley, Justin Mullet, Tabbitha Murphy, Vinitra Murray, Tzoulie Niforos, Nicole Oller, Ayla Oliver, Caullen Owens, Anna Patsy, Gino Pennachio, Kristie Pericellia, Justin Peters, Brittany Phillips, Josh Phillips, Christina Pingley, Tori Piper, Keisha Pugh, Robert Ragland, Adam Reed, Sarah Riffle, Cory Rihel, Andy Rodgers, Melissa Rodriguez, Tiyauna Rudd, Megan Rupert, Rashanna Russ, Samantha Schaab, Michelle Seawood, Melissa Seawood, Charles Seay, Sophia Sebben, Krysta Simpson, Kelly Smith, Kayla Sparks, Sara Stainislaw, Brittany Stargell, Rachel Starr, Angela Stawiski, Anne Stewart, Erin Straniak, Maureen Sweet, Caleb Tatebe, Kiwana Taylor, Michael Thomas, Kaycee Thompson, Matt Thompson, Carrie Turner, Rochelle Vinson, Alexandria Walker, Greg Walker, Jacque Walker, Dan Westover, Cara White, Gary White, Carie Whoretton, Daivon Williams, David Wilson, Alyssa Wolcott, Peter Wyndam, Tiffany Wynn, Yang Xu, Collin Yarnel, Mark Yauger II, Annette York, Christopher Younger.

HONORING FRANK VON HIPPEL,  
RECIPIENT OF THE GEORGE F.  
KENNAN PEACE LEADERSHIP  
AWARD

### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, Frank von Hippel, a physicist and professor of public and international affairs at Princeton University, has had, and continues to have, a far-reaching influence on arms control and nuclear policy. He is without question one of the world's leading experts on nuclear arms control and non-proliferation.

Frank's many contributions include path breaking work on nuclear reactor safety, energy efficiency in automobiles, support of whistle-blowers, training of a large group of young policy scientists, and his current work on the safety of stored spent power-reactor fuel. He is the founder of the journal *Science and Global Security*, the leading peer-reviewed journal on technical issues of arms control and international security. He is a model to many people about how a scientist should contribute to the policy process.

On the occasion of the award of the George F. Kennan Peace Leadership Award, I would like to highlight Frank von Hippel's work with Soviet scientists that prepared the way for deep cuts in nuclear arsenals. This is only one aspect of Frank's many contributions.

During the 1980s Frank developed a working relationship with Soviet physicist Evgeny Velikhov. At the time, Velikhov was the deputy director of the I. V. Kurchatov Institute of Atomic Energy in Moscow, and he became the science advisor to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Through this relationship, Frank was able to launch a series of cooperative efforts between U.S. non-governmental organizations and the Soviet Academy of Sciences. These included the installation of devices to detect underground nuclear weapons tests, an arms control experiment to verify the presence of a nuclear weapon on Soviet warship, inspections of Soviet nuclear facilities, programs to safeguard and reduce Soviet stockpiles of nuclear weapons materials, programs to reduce the nuclear proliferation risk from former Soviet nuclear materials stockpiles and from former weapons scientists, and a joint U.S.-Soviet project to assess the potential for deep cuts in nuclear weapons arsenals. These activities provided a basis for U.S. and Soviet reductions in their nuclear arsenals.

Frank always knows his subject; his work is well reasoned and backed up with careful analysis. But his achievements show that he is much more than a technical expert. Frank is a great person to work with; everyone likes him. His generosity and, especially, his even temper, that have helped him forge international cooperation among scientists and governments. Frank is the first person I call when I have questions on nuclear weapons and arms control or any number of other subjects. He richly deserves this great honor.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN GILMAN G.  
UDELL, JR. ON THE OCCASION  
OF HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of our Capitol Police Officers. On December 31, 2004, Captain Gilman G. Udell will retire after 33 years of serving the Congress as a member of the United States Capitol Police (USCP). Captain Udell spent the majority of his career, and finished as the commanding officer, of the USCP Hazardous Incident Response Division. Captain Udell was one of the six original members of the USCP bomb squad, first organized in the Spring of 1974. To exemplify Captain Udell's fine work in this area, one must review the threat environment over the last 30 years.

On March 1, 1971 a bomb exploded in a restroom on the first floor of the Senate wing of the Capitol, causing extensive damage. After that incident, the Department selected six officers to attend the basic bomb course at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama. When Gill Udell and the other original members returned to Washington after completing the training at Redstone Arsenal, their new unit became part of the Special Investigations Division.

Over the 30 years of its existence, the Bomb Squad has excelled at developing and adapting new tools and techniques for rendering safe procedures. Members of the unit work with other Federal agencies such as the FBI, ATF, DoD and DoE, as well as private contractors in the defense industry to stay current with new technology and to promote the development of new tools and techniques for the bomb technician community. Captain Udell has been instrumental in every measure of this development.

Although most of the calls received by the Bomb Squad each day turn out to be nothing harmful, there have been a number of incidents over the years in which the danger was real.

July 4, 1976: An individual was stopped who had been acting suspiciously, looking at the grates on the West Front. When searched, the suspect admitted having home-made explosive devices, 1" x 6" inch lengths of cardboard tubing with non-electric fuses. Each of these bombs packed the explosive power of about a quarter stick of dynamite. The devices were transported to Ft. Belvoir, where the ATF assisted in detonating them. The suspect had intended to light the devices and throw them into the crowd.

September 26, 1980: A Chevy pickup truck being used as an incendiary device tried to crash the South Wall of the Capitol building.

May 20, 1982: A hoax device consisting of red candles with a sparkly coating that looked like dynamite and a clock placed inside a shoe box inside a paper bag, was found in the office of the Clerk of the House.

October 18, 1983: At 1330 hours, a male foreign national entered House Gallery #10 with a device that consisted of two one-liter soft drink bottles filled with homemade black powder, a slide switch for control, flash bulb as an initiator, and a battery for a power source. The man stood up and, instead of

exiting, walked down to the front, meanwhile trying to flip the switch on his device. Fortunately, the black powder mixture was not mixed correctly, so the device did not go off. The suspect was apprehended as soon as he walked towards the rail, and was eventually deported back to Israel after this event.

November 7, 1983: At 2255 hours, a detonation occurred on the second floor of the U.S. Capitol, opposite the Republican Cloak room, causing extensive damage. The device was constructed of 4 to 5 pounds of dynamite, a battery, electric blasting cap and watch, all placed in a gym bag. Credit for the explosion was claimed by a group calling itself The Armed Resistance Unit. Seven militants belonging to the group were convicted of this bombing in 1990.

August 20, 1984: A Molotov Cocktail was thrown and ignited on the East Front, Center Steps portico, by the 2nd floor entrance. One bystander, a Priest, was injured. The device consisted of a beer bottle filled with gas and containing a wick, and was ignited with a lighter. The perpetrator was arrested.

March 15, 1986: A letter bomb addressed to a senator was intercepted by the U. S. Post Office. The device, consisting of a hollow antenna segment filled with match heads, battery, and wire heating element, had been made by a prisoner and sent from a prison in Kansas.

April 19, 1988: The FBI called the Hazardous Devices Section for assistance. While executing a search warrant, FBI agents discovered deteriorated nitroglycerine-based dynamite in a suspect's closet. The HDS responded, removed, transported and destroyed the dynamite.

June 21, 1988: A hoax device designed to resemble a hand grenade was sent to a Congressman's office but was intercepted by the House Post Office. The item was detonated during render safe procedures performed by the Hazardous Devices Section.

December 5, 1990: A subject attempted to enter the Dirksen Senate Office Building with a hoax device consisting of three signal flares, a clock, wires and a circuit board.

January 3, 1995: Just three weeks after the Bomb Squad acquired its new, state-of-the-art Andros robot, a suspected pipe bomb was found at 3rd and Independence Ave., SW., and the Metropolitan police contacted HDS for assistance. When remote procedures could not open the device, it was placed in the bomb sphere truck and transported to the Marine Corps explosives range at Quantico, Virginia, where it was counter-charged and blown open. The device turned out to be a sand fuse belonging to METRO.

The Capitol Police Bomb Squad is rated by the FBI Bomb Data Center and staff of the Hazardous Devices School at Redstone Arsenal as one of the top bomb squads in the Nation. The unit has achieved recognition throughout the bomb technician community through their assistance to other agencies and service in offices and positions in professional associations and organizations.

Captain Udell successfully led the Unit through many changes as the Department's mission evolved in recent years. The unit that started with a home-made bomb truck put together from donated and surplus parts is today equipped with state-of-the-art technology. Captain Udell was one of the first to recognize the need for specialized training in

Weapons of Mass Destruction and Hazardous Materials. Years before the Anthrax Letter was received in Senator DASCHLE's Office, all the HDS technicians were certified to handle nuclear, biological and chemical incidents.

Captain Udell was instrumental in the response to the Anthrax letter attack, which occurred just one month after September 11th, 2001. He led his hazmat trained bomb techs on emergency calls that appeared to never end. Prior to the Anthrax attack, there was typically one or two "suspicious powder" calls a month. That was soon to change. On October 15th, the Senator Daschle anthrax letter was opened in the Hart Senate office building. It was the 3rd, of a total of 56 "suspicious powder" response calls, for just that day. Captain Udell managed the teams' response, and being a certified bomb and hazmat technician himself, he jumped in and responded to calls with his team. The response and clean up of the anthrax incident encompassed nearly seven months until completion. Captain Udell worked tirelessly throughout the entire period, working long extended hours and rarely taking a day off. To Captain Udell, this was just doing his job; to his team, the Capitol Police, and the Congressional Community Captain Udell is a true leader and patriot in the protection of Congress.

After the Anthrax incident, Captain Udell played a critical part in the development and implementation of the police department's Hazardous Materials Response Team. He finished his career as the Commander of the newly formed Hazardous Incident Response Division of the Capitol Police. The new unit incorporated an "all hazards" response capability to deal with the new and emerging threats in the post 9/11 era.

Captain Udell started his relationship with the Congress as high school student in the Page Program. He has served the Capitol Police and the Congress in an exemplary manner throughout his career. He is a role model to those who follow in what it means to "protect the Congress"—the mission of the U.S. Capitol Police, which Captain Udell has never forgotten.

IN HONOR OF SUE SHAPIRO

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sue Shapiro for her active role in community organizations and years of dedicated leadership. Mrs. Shapiro was honored at the Bayonne Jewish Community Center's 52nd annual Sustaining Dinner Gala on October 23, 2004, in Bayonne, New Jersey.

Sue Shapiro's commitment to serving her community has been demonstrated by her steadfast involvement in local organizations. In the past, she has served as a member and trustee of the Bayonne Board of Education and was the second woman to serve as president of the Temple Beth Am.

Her most extensive service has been with the Jewish Community Center. As chairperson of the Health and Physical Education Committee for 24 of her 29 years of participation, Mrs. Shapiro has overseen a successful athletic program for youth and adults of Bayonne.

She has also served as chair or co-chair of the Open Tennis Tournament, Winter Holiday Elementary School Basketball Tournament, Annual Golf Tournament, and Annual Sports Awards Program. In addition, she has successfully organized three reunions at the Jewish Community Center.

Throughout her years of involvement with these organizations, Mrs. Shapiro has continued to work as a dedicated employee for the Rexall Drug Company and Judge Harvey L. Birne.

Born and raised in Bayonne, Mrs. Shapiro was the wife of the late Harold Shapiro and is the proud mother of three sons and three grandchildren.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sue Shapiro for her outstanding leadership and dedication to the community of Bayonne, New Jersey.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHN DiPOFI

### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. John DiPofi of Niagara Falls, NY, who passed away this week at the age of 106. He was the oldest living Marine in the United States at the time of his death.

Mr. DiPofi joined the Marines on November 10, 1922, and served for 3 years in Haiti. He was an expert rifleman and was assigned to guard the country's agricultural assets.

Mr. DiPofi was born in Italy and came to America in 1913 at the age of 15. He lived and worked in Niagara Falls after his tour of duty.

It was an honor to have Mr. DiPofi living in the 28th Congressional District. I was privileged to meet him last year and congratulate him on his good health and service to our nation.

I offer my sincerest condolences to Mr. DiPofi's family. The nation has lost a good soldier, and Niagara Falls has lost a good friend. His extraordinary life will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING LANCE CORPORAL PHILLIP G. WEST, USMC, WHO WAS KILLED IN ACTION IN IRAQ NOVEMBER 19, 2004

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to Lance Corporal Phillip G. West, USMC, who was killed in action in Iraq November 19, 2004. Corporal West, a 19-year-old resident of Napa County, CA, answered his country's call and paid the ultimate price.

Corporal West served as a rifleman with the 3rd Platoon, India Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Division. He was on patrol in Fallujah when he was fatally wounded by an explosive device.

Corporal West was born and raised in Napa County. He was a lifeguard at the American

Canyon Aquatics Center and taught many local youngsters to swim. He also played football for the Vintage High School Crushers in Napa.

Corporal West loved his country and he enlisted in the Marines immediately upon graduation from Vintage High in 2003. He was drawn to the Corps because, to him, it was "the best" and he wanted to be part of the best.

Corporal West was deployed to Iraq's Al Anbar Province in June. As a rifleman, he was often in combat situations, either on safety patrol or in directly confronting insurgents. He excelled at his job, was highly regarded by his unit and received a commendation from the Marine Corps for superior performance.

Corporal West died serving the country he loved, with comrades he loved and with the love of his family in his heart. Our nation is humbled and grateful for his sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Lance Corporal Phillip G. West, USMC, who gave his life in service to his country.

HONORING THE WOODCLIFF COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Woodcliff Community Reformed Church, which celebrated its 75th anniversary on November 18, 2004, in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Throughout the years, the Woodcliff Community Reformed Church has helped the residents of Jersey City by supporting local organizations, providing outreach programs, and aiding in the spiritual development of its congregation.

Its efforts to serve the community include establishing a program to feed the homeless and offering building space to local Alcoholics Anonymous groups. It has also been a major supporter of the local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops in the area. The church's dedication to serving others has greatly contributed to the success and stability of the community, and its contributions to the surrounding areas are to be commended.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Woodcliff Community Reformed Church for its 75 years of exemplary work within the community and its spiritual leadership in Jersey City, NJ.

COMMENDING HUMBERTO LOZANO LOPEZ

### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a unique American patriot and pioneer in the Tejano recording industry and the world of radio and broadcasting, my friend from our hometown of Robstown, TX, Humberto Lozano Lopez.

Humberto was just inducted into the Tejano Hall of Fame in Texas for his lifetime of excellence in broadcasting and for the extraordinary

addition he has made to the tapestry of our lives through broadcasting—both music and community interest programming—composing, promoting Hispanic talent, and finally obtaining and operating the Lopez Broadcast System that now consists of several South Texas radio stations.

His introduction to radio came in 1955, while he was still in high school, conducting the American GI Forum Weekly Program on KCCT in Corpus Christi, TX. After graduation he continued this work he loved, and it took him all over south Texas and northern Mexico. In the early 1960s, he moved the family to San Antonio, where he branched out to television, and worked in the first U.S. Spanish Radio station, KCOR, and the first U.S. Spanish Television station, (KWEX).

His voice won him voice-over roles in some classic American movies—for voices of Spencer Tracy, Sidney Poitier, Anthony Quinn, and many more—and he dubbed several Hollywood movies into Spanish for broadcast into Mexico and Latin America. For his work in this venue, Humberto picked up an award for "Best Performance in Dubbing."

In the early 1970s, he returned to live in Robstown and work in Corpus Christi. He began as program director for KCCT, spicing up the classic station with a new motto, "Radio Jalapeno—Caliente." While in Corpus Christi, he worked for a while in print journalism for the Corpus Christi Sun Newspaper, as sales manager and columnist.

In the early 1980s, he longed to put his management skills and talent to use in a larger sphere, and applied with the FCC to own his own station. He quickly began acquiring radio stations in South Texas under the Lopez Broadcast System, which currently includes: KTMV-TV, Corpus Christi; KTMV-TV, Victoria (UPN affiliate); KTMV-TV, San Antonio; KMIQ 104.9 FM, Robstown-Corpus Christi; KINE 1330 AM Robstown-Kingsville; KXTM 107.7 FM, Benavidez; KHMC 95.5 FM, Victoria; and KLMO 98.9 FM, San Antonio. He continues to explore expanding Lopez Broadcast System into other markets such as College Station, San Angelo, and Houston.

Humberto's most memorable experiences included interviewing the widow of Mexican legend, Pancho Villa; Texas' first Hispanic Congressman, Henry B. Gonzalez; and the members of Battalion 201, the World War II Mexican Battalion. Easily, his most rewarding experience is the continuing success of the Lopez Broadcast System, which serves our home community in South Texas. Humberto's philosophy is: "It's not about how much money someone may earn but the accomplishments and lives you touch—which leaves a legacy of hope."

He is supported by the love of his life, his wife Minerva Rodriguez-Lopez; their children: Mario Humberto, Luis Homero, Larry, Manuel, Carlos, Humberto II, Ernesto, Mena Lamar, Melinda, Ray, Lisa, and Mary Helen; their 27 grandchildren—Mario Humberto II, Michael Anthony, Marissa, Celina, Carissa, Crista, Lizette, Lynsey, Ashley Nicole, Manuel Omar, Mireya, Alejandro, Gabriella, Laura Lynn, Carlos Eric, Crystal, Katherine, Ernesto Nicholas, Raul Jr., MiaMar Minerva, Isabella, Giselle Fey, Cristian Esai, Ray Jr., Amy Desiree, Nayeli, and Orlando DeLeon II; and their 2 great grandchildren, Mario Humberto III, and Michael Anthony.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending my dear friend, Humberto

Lozano Lopez, for the amazing achievement so far in his lifetime and for his recent induction into the Tejano Hall of Fame.

#### HONORING THE BALLOU SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the District's own Ballou Senior High School Marching Band for its recent extraordinary achievement at the Home Depot National Battle of the Bands Competition. The band, numbering 86 members, placed second among eight bands in a competition which included 110 entrants in the initial field. Ballou deserves recognition from the House of Representatives not only because of this notable accomplishment. I ask the Congress to recognize the Ballou Marching Band also because these students, led by their able and devoted band director, Darrell Watson, overcame nearly impossible odds.

The high school is located in one of the city's most disadvantaged and besieged communities. The students have lived with unusual human tragedy, including the fatal shooting of two fellow students this year. Also in 2003, the school was closed for more than a month because of an accidental mercury spill. At the end of the school year, many of the problems of the school were blamed on allegations of poor leadership and the principal was dismissed.

This is not an atmosphere conducive to producing award winning bands. Yet, the Ballou Marching Band's band director and the new principal, Daniel Hudson, persevered. However, talent, intelligence, diligence and dedication could not cover the \$70,000 needed to travel to California to compete. The often struggling families of the students, and their inner-city community certainly did not have such funds. Still, the band and their school did not give up. They sought help from the business community, alumni and others. Many were moved by the determination of the students. Among the many contributors who made the trip possible were Federal Express—inspired by a Ballou alumna who was a vice president—Lockheed Martin, Embassy Suites Hotels, and William C. Smith and Company. The outpouring of love and support that the Ballou band received was inspired not only by the need, but by the students' own determination and efforts in doing car washes and selling dinners to earn funds for the trip.

The concrete show of confidence in these children enabled the band's participation and its prize-winning finish. In fact, the competition was razor close, and Ballou almost came away with the top prize. Its reward was a trip to Disneyland and the opportunity to play in the holiday parade. The larger and lasting reward is the sense of accomplishment the students received and the opportunity to broaden their horizons and expectations concerning where hard work and high aspirations can lead. On a visit to the school, I was moved to see the effect of the band's achievements on the entire student body, which gathered to celebrate the band with principal, teachers and staff all present. The band director, Darrell

Watson, spoke of the numerous compliments he received, including words of praise concerning the exemplary behavior of the members of the band. Principal Hudson is leading the students to transfer the band's achievement to academic achievement as well for the student body.

I am proud that the band represented the city so well and proud to represent the band, the school, and the community in the Congress of the United States. Last week I wrote to President Bush to ask that the Ballou Band march in the upcoming Inaugural Parade. Considering what the band has achieved and the obstacles the students have overcome, I believe that the band and the school deserve this national recognition. Mr. Speaker, the Ballou Senior High School Marching Band deserves the accolades the band is receiving since returning from California. I ask the House of Representatives to add its own congratulations as well.

#### HONORING MARCELLUS'S GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

#### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary group of athletes, the Marcellus Girls Varsity Soccer team. Marcellus captured its second consecutive Section 3, Class B state title with a 6 to 0 win over Fredonia, ending their season with an overall record of 23–1–1.

The Marcellus Mustangs lived up to their season long No. 1 ranking with a decisive victory over Fredonia led by senior striker Jenna Farneti scoring three goals and two assists. Amy Ware and Hannah Vaughn struck the final blows to the nails in the coffin adding three more goals with Meghan Mannion and Alyssa MacLachlan contributing the assists.

While acknowledging these five, outstanding athletes for their efforts in the championship game is well deserved; any member of a team knows that victory isn't possible without the contributions of all team members and coaches.

Coach Laurie Updike, Jenna Farneti, Rachel Farneti, Stephanie Gosson, Kelly Hanlon, Sarah Holden, Jocie Jankowski, Alyssa MacLachlan, Meghan Mannion, Ashley Martin, Lauren Longo, Alyse O'Brien, Sarah Potter, Catherine Scott, Amanda Stessen, Hannah Vaughn, Katie Walter, Amy Ware, Jennifer Young, Katie Young, Katie Zimmerman, Emily Zimmerman, Emmy Potter, Meghan Kaminska are all equally valued components of the Marcellus perennial powerhouse.

A special recognition is also deserved to those whom support Marcellus's fine athletes, the parents, teachers, students and fans. You were all instrumental in the Mustang's success.

I commend the Marcellus Girls Varsity Soccer team for their dedication and congratulate them on a triumphant season. Your continued success reflects your tireless work ethic.

Congratulations to the Champs.



HONORING THE IRONBOUND  
COMMUNITY CORPORATION

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ironbound Community Corporation, a multiservice organization that has made amazing contributions to the city and residents of Newark. The Ironbound Community Corporation celebrated its 35th anniversary on October 22, 2004, at the Mediterranean Manor in Newark, NJ.

Guided by a desire to ensure justice and equality for all people, the Ironbound Community Organization provides a variety of programs and outreach services and offers assistance in areas such as family literacy, multilingual adult education, family assistance and development, and senior citizen care. In addition, it develops programs for children, adolescents, environmental projects, and general neighborhood issues, with the goal of improving the lives of those living in and around the ethnically and culturally diverse Ironbound neighborhood. More than 700 people benefit daily from the services this wonderful organization provides.

Each year, the Community Corporation honors those who have contributed greatly to the organization's success. This year's honorees include Gabriella Morris, Joseph DiVincenzo, Antônio Matinho, David and Florence Schnegelberger, Bernadine Fillmore, and Eva Harris.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Ironbound Community Corporation for 35 years of dedicated and honorable service working to improve the lives of the people of Newark. Its broad range of programs and services has greatly impacted the community and will no doubt continue to benefit the lives of countless people in the years to come.

RELEASE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE  
RECIPIENT AUNG SAN SUU KYI

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight recent and profoundly heartbreaking situations in the brutal authoritarian dictatorship of Burma. For nearly two decades, the ruling military regime has sought to crush any and all opposition to their complete domination of the country.

The military junta's actions have led to the unjust imprisonment of over 1,000 political opponents, including the world's only imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize recipient, Aung San Suu Kyi. While indications recently hinted at the release of most, if not all, of these political prisoners, once again the regime has proven that no trust can be lent to their promises. Just days after the promising release of a handful of democracy activists, the military junta informed Aung San Suu Kyi that her sentence would be extended one more year.

Mr. Speaker, even more appalling, recent reports indicate that five Burma Army battal-

ions are involved in slash and burn campaigns in ethnic minority controlled areas in eastern Burma. These actions follow an all-too-familiar pattern of tactics employed by the regime to stifle resistance by anti-regime, ethnic minorities. Military are actively burning villages and crucial rice supplies. Perhaps a greater outrage is the military then land mining the empty villages, and most times, the paths to and from that village so people are unable to return. There is no other intention in these actions than extermination.

As a strong advocate for children, I am saddened that the nearly 7,500 displaced villagers recently fleeing to the jungle include numerous children. The child mortality and malnutrition among these displaced people are staggering. Not only the children are suffering the effects of this displacement. With nowhere to go, many families are divided and many people die of preventable, treatable diseases.

Mr. Speaker, I add my voice to others in this great nation that continue to seek freedom and democracy for the people of Burma. I strongly object to the continued imprisonment of Nobel Peace Prize recipient Aung San Suu Kyi, and call for her immediate release. I also encourage the Administration to take whatever measures necessary to exert more pressure on the ruling military regime.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,  
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. ED WHITFIELD**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to a provision inserted in the FY 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Act. Title 1 section 142 states "Any excess animal sold under this provision shall no longer be considered to be a wild-free roaming horse or burro for purposes of this Act." This section completely reverses the goal of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, which was aimed at stopping wild horses and burros from being harvested for commercial poses without limitation.

The Bureau of Land Management, BLM, oversees approximately 261 million acres. More than 29 million acres of this land is used for wild horse and burro grazing. BLM's responsibilities with regard to caring for wild horses and burros were created by the Wild Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act in 1971. Although the act's primary concern is caring for wild horses and burros, it also permits BLM to lease this land for several purposes, such as grazing, mining, and parks. The act and subsequent regulations require BLM to manage wild horses and burros on public lands and protect them from unauthorized capture, branding, harassment, death, and ensure their humane care.

Current law prohibits the sale of wild horses and burros for processing into commercial products. Section 142 will undermine these efforts by allowing wild horses and burros that are at least 10 years old or have been put up for adoption three times to be auctioned. As a cosponsor of the American Horse Protection Act, along with 227 other Members, I am ap-

palled that wild horses and burros could possibly be captured for slaughter.

Horses that are sent to slaughter are often crammed into double decker trailers, where conditions are so bad that many horses arrive at the slaughtering facility injured. Moreover, since there are no export tariffs on horse meat, no profits from this industry remain in America. The profits go directly to Belgium and France, which is where the owners of the only slaughter houses in the United States live. More importantly, the provision is a devastating blow to the equine industry, because they have worked diligently to protect horses from slaughter.

Section 142 was inserted during conference negotiations, leaving many members unaware of the new provision and its impact. In addition, no stand-alone legislation has been introduced and, to my knowledge, the House Resources Committee had not seen this language. Because this provision was inserted behind closed doors, no congressional authorizing committee had an opportunity to comment on this provision and its impact. Additionally, no hearings have been held to get feedback from BLM on possible alternatives. In fact, since 1988, every Department of Interior Appropriations bill has included language that states, "Appropriations herein made shall not be available for the destruction of healthy, unadopted, wild horses and burros in the care of the Bureau or its contractor." Coincidentally, this language was left out this year. I believe that if this language was brought before the full House for a vote as stand-alone legislation it would fail, because clearly the majority of the House has gone on record opposing the slaughter of horses.

Mr. Speaker, it does not speak well of this institution when individual members of the House and Senate can change 16 years of policy by sneaking a provision into the Omnibus without disclosure, discussion, or public knowledge. Horses are part of our American heritage and hold a favored status. They are not food animals in this country and, unlike cows, pigs, and chickens, they should not be bred, raised, or gathered for slaughter.

THE CURSE HAS STRUCK OUT

**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of the victory of the Red Sox in the World Series, I have an offering for the House, with apologies to Ernest L. Thayer entitled, "The Curse Has Struck Out."

The outlook wasn't guaranteed for the Red Sox nine this year

Since 1918 our boys had left us crying in our beer.

And when they lost twice in New York, and then at home again

A pall-like silence fell over the loyal Red Sox fans.

A straggling few got up to go in deep despair. "Wait 'til next year," they said. Resignation filled the air.

The rest clung to that hope that springs eternal in the human breast.

"It ain't over 'til it's over" they muttered half in jest.

They thought, "If only our boys could put some bat on that ball,



We'd put Bambino's curse to rest once and for all."

But then Ortiz let fly a homer, to the wonderment of all.

And Johnny Damon, bases loaded, tore the cover off the ball.

And when the dust had lifted on that memorable night

We had come back from three games down, the Curse was in our sights.

Then from all of Red Sox Nation's throats there rose a wild call,

It echoed on the Common, it shook Faneuil Hall.

It pounded on the River Charles, and splashed upon the Bay.

The Yankees were all through, kaput, a World Series we would play.

And they rolled out to St. Louis, jewel of the Midwest.

The Cards had won their league with ease, but now they faced a test.

Were they ready for the Boston boys? The town was dressed in red.

The fans could not be nicer, the team was so well led.

But the Red Sox took the first three games, competing nobly one and all.

They overcame their errors, they answered every call.

And as Game Four proceeded, and a Series win now loomed,

All New England shivered with the thought we might still be doomed.

Henry shifted in his seat, Hope in Werner burned,

Epstein checked his numbers, Lucchino's stomach churned.

What deus ex machina would fall down from the sky?

What Bucky Dent-Bill Buckner ghost might steer things all awry?

Keith Foulke climbed up upon the mound, ball burning in his hand.

The Curse stepped up to face him, to make a final stand.

There was ease in the Curse's manner as he stepped into his place.

There was pride in Bambino's bearing, a smile on the Curse's face.

And when, responding to his fans, he lightly doffed his hat,

No stranger in the crowd could doubt 'twas the Curse at the bat.

A nation's eyes were on him as he rubbed his hands with dirt.

60,000 tongues applauded when he wiped them on his shirt.

Then, while Foulke rubbed the ball into his shifty hip,

Defiance flashed in the Curse's eye, a sneer curled on his lip.

And now the leather-covered sphere came hurtling through the air,

And the Curse stood a-watching it in haughty grandeur there.

Close by the portly batsman the ball unheeded sped—

"I just can't hit that," said the Curse.

"Strike one!" the umpire said.

From the canyons of Manhattan, there rose a muffled roar.

New York fans were screaming, "Would the Curse really be no more?"

"Kill him, kill the umpire," they shouted in Yankee land.

The Curse looked smug. In 86 years the Curse had never fanned.

With a smile of overconfidence, the Curse's visage shone.

He stilled the rising tumult, he bade the game go on.

He signaled the Red Sox closer, and once more the dun sphere flew,

But the Curse couldn't hit it, and the umpire said, "Strike two."

"It's over," thought the Cardinals fans, who are brought up so well.

But the Curse gave a scornful look and an eerie silence fell.

They saw his face frown stern and cold, they saw his muscles strain.

And they really thought the Curse wouldn't let that ball go by again.

The sneer has fled from the Curse's lip, the teeth are clenched in hate.

He pounds, with cruel violence, his bat upon the plate.

And now the pitcher holds the ball, and now he lets it go,

And now the air is shattered by the force of the Curse's blow.

Oh, all across this favored land the sun is shining bright.

The band is playing happily and our hearts are oh so light.

And Red Sox Nation smiles and laughs, and little children shout.

And there is pure joy in Beantown—

The Curse has struck out.

IN HONOR OF FRANK CARINE, JR.

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank Carine, Jr., for his outstanding public service and demonstrated commitment to community participation and leadership. He was named the 2004 Honoree of the Year by the Sicilian Citizens Club on October 23, 2004, in Bayonne, NJ.

Mr. Carine has dedicated more than 27 years of his life to law enforcement. His service includes time on the municipal, county, and federal law enforcement teams. For the past 18 years, he has worked with the U.S. Department of Justice and Drug Enforcement Agency and is currently a Supervisory Special Agent in the Newark, NJ, division.

Within the law enforcement community, Mr. Carine has established himself as an exceptional leader as a three-term president of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, New Jersey Chapter 2. His leadership abilities are also clearly demonstrated through his positions as vice-president of the Nicholas Capodice Association, secretary for the Holy Family Father Club, executive board member of the Sicilian Citizens Club, and chairman and co-chairman of fundraisers for the Boy Scouts of America.

In addition to his years of public service, Mr. Carine has contributed his time and energy to helping others, including coaching Bayonne youth soccer teams. His extensive community involvement includes being a third degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council 371, as well as a member of the Italian American Police Society of New Jersey, the Federal Agents PBA local 121, and the Honor Legion of the Police Departments of New Jersey. In addition, he serves on the Annual Blue Mass Committee for the Archdiocese of Newark and the Hudson Liberty District Committee.

Mr. Carine was born and raised in Bayonne, New Jersey. He received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from New Jersey City University (formerly Jersey City State College) and graduated from the New Jersey State Po-

lice Academy in Sea Girt, NJ, and the DEA/FBI Academy in Quantico, VA.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Frank Carine, Jr., for his years of dedicated service to law enforcement and his significant contributions to the community.

### TRIBUTE TO TERRY MELCHER

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Terry Melcher, a prominent record producer and songwriter and a personal friend of mine, who recently passed away. I send the deepest sympathies to his wife, Terese, his son, Ryan, and his mother, Doris Day.

Anyone who knew Terry would claim that he was a talented man. He started his career in the music industry as a solo singer, but later he and future Beach Boy Bruce Johnston paired up and formed the group Bruce & Terry. They made several hits together and then went on to become part of the group, the Rip Chords. Together the Rip Chords recorded the 1964 hit, "Hey, Little Cobra".

Also, during this successful time, Terry's career included producing. He produced the top selling version of Bob Dylan's "Mr. Tambourine Man" and others, including the Byrds' "Turn, Turn, Turn" while with Columbia Records. He also worked his magic with the Mamas and the Papas, Wayne Newton, Paul Revere and the Raiders and Ray Cooder. In addition to his work Terry took time to be involved in the community; he was a board member of the Monterey Pop Foundation and a producer of the Monterey Pop Festival in 1967. This event rose to fame as stars such as Jimi Hendrix, The Who, Janis Joplin and Otis Redding emerged onto the national scene.

However, Terry was probably best known for his work with the Beach Boys, who once recorded an album at his studio in Carmel Valley. Terry co-wrote the song "Kokomo" and performed on their album "Pet Sounds". "Kokomo" was used in the movie "Cocktail", where it garnered a Golden Globe nomination in 1988 for best original song.

Terry continued his involvement with entertainment throughout his life and was the executive producer of his mother's shows: "The Doris Day Show", on CBS from 1968 to 1972 and then later, in the mid-80's, "Doris Day's Best Friends". He continued his involvement in the community and helped run his mother's charitable activities, including the Doris Day Animal Foundation. He was also a supporter of the Boy Scouts of America and the Monterey County Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Speaker, Terry Melcher was a man who shared his gift of music with others and valued the Central Coast community. I would again like to extend my deepest sympathies to Terry Melcher's family at their loss.

DISTRICT OF MARYLAND, HOME OF CHAMPIONS: KUDOS TO SUITLAND, POTOMAC, SHERWOOD, DEMATHA, SENECA VALLEY AND MAGRUDER HIGH SCHOOLS

### HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate several of our great high school sports teams in the 4th Congressional District of Maryland for their outstanding seasons. Congratulations to Suitland and Potomac High Schools who both recently won state football championships.

Potomac High School located in Oxon Hill, Maryland rose to victory beating Hereford High School 19 to 12 to win the 2A title championship. Led by Coach Eric Knight, Potomac was finally able to achieve the title that had slipped through their fingers the previous season. In winning the state championship Potomac also became the first team in Maryland history to end the season with a 14-0 record.

Suitland High School located in Suitland, Maryland, led by Coach Nick Lynch and standout junior linebacker Navorro Bowman, beat Damascus High School 14 to 7 to win the 4A title championship. Although Bowman had been pinpointed as the obvious star of the team, the humble young player still managed to praise his fellow teammates including his aggressive offensive line, which did an excellent job to help seal the victory. Navorro Bowman who has already been offered a scholarship at the University of Maryland appears to be a young man on the move who has a bright and promising future ahead of him.

Congratulations are also in order for DeMatha High School in Hyattsville, Maryland, which ended the season as the number one boys soccer team in the region. Sherwood High School in Sandy Spring, Maryland should also be recognized for ending a great soccer season with their boys' team ranked number three and their girls' team number seven in the area.

In addition Seneca Valley High School in Germantown Maryland ranked number four in the top ten for volleyball, while Magruder High School in Rockville ranked number six.

I am extremely proud of the achievements of these young people from my Congressional District. I am sure that all the citizens of Maryland's 4th Congressional District share my enthusiastic admiration for their hard work, sportsmanship and teamwork. Athletics plays an important role in the development of our youth, and teaches valuable life lessons in co-operation, camaraderie, and valor. The famed football coach Vince Lombardi once said that individual commitment to a group effort—is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, and a civilization work.

ON THIS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE: AMERICA'S VETERANS DESERVE BETTER

### HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on December 7, 1941, over 2,200 brave servicemen and women sacrificed their lives protecting the freedoms we have come to cherish. Now, sixty-three years after the devastating attack on Pearl Harbor, America has over 26 million veterans who have selflessly dedicated themselves in service to our great country and sacrificed to guarantee Americans the freedoms we enjoy today.

Unfortunately, rather than receiving the full respect they deserve, our nation's veterans are now faced with a recently released Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) directive (VHA Directive 2004-045) that exposes them to tremendous risk. The directive grants optometrists—non-Medical Doctors (MDs)—in the VA system privileges to perform laser eye procedures under the supervision of an ophthalmologist—a fully trained and certified MD. While I fully understand that the Directive mandates the procedure will be supervised, I am also aware of the fact that supervising a procedure is not the same as actually performing the procedure. As a result, allowing an operation to be performed by a non-surgeon could potentially jeopardize patient safety, and ultimately the quality of care provided to our veterans.

As eye health deteriorates with age, more and more older Americans are faced with the need for eye surgery. And just when our aging veterans need this care the most, they are now faced with the prospect of having their surgery performed by someone who hasn't been through intensive surgical education or training. This new policy blatantly imposes a substandard level of health care on our veterans.

Currently, only one state—Oklahoma—permits optometrists (non-MDs) to perform laser eye surgery, while 35 other states have outright prohibited this type of procedure. In fact, 14 states, including Indiana, have debated and soundly rejected similar measures—seven states in this calendar year alone. But regardless of individual state restrictions, the DVA directive allows an eye care professional to practice anywhere in the VHA system, “up to the limits” of their license. As a result, optometrists with no formal surgical education or training will be able to go to Oklahoma, take a 16 hour course, pass the Oklahoma optometry certification exam, and then go anywhere in the country and practice laser eye surgery on any veteran in any VHA facility. Thus, in states that have prohibited this type of threat or rejected Oklahoma-like legislation, optometrists will be practicing surgery on veterans against the wishes of state lawmakers.

As a proud veteran of the U.S. Army, I find it shocking that this practice has been allowed to come this far. And I'm not alone in my belief that medical doctors who are specifically trained to reduce surgery-related risks should be the only ones legally permitted to carry out these delicate laser eye procedures. In fact, in a national poll of U.S. veterans, 95 percent said it was important for a licensed medical

doctor, specializing in eye care, to conduct eye surgery.

Any medical operation has the potential to cause adverse affects. In older populations—such as those served by VHA facilities—the rate of adverse events tends to increase for any surgical procedure. Therefore, it makes no sense that this very population—those most in need of a medical doctor's training and education to determine the safest surgery for their overall health—be needlessly exposed to the very real threat of having a non-MD operate on them. It should be our highest priority as American citizens to help ensure the safety of those who have so proudly and bravely defended our great country. All U.S. veterans deserve to have quality health care performed by medical doctors with the proper education and training.

IN HONOR OF YOLANDA FERNANDEZ-QUINCOCES

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Yolanda Fernandez-Quincoces for her remarkable accomplishments in dance and music and her exceptional artistic contributions to the community over the past few decades.

Ms. Fernandez-Quincoces's extensive career includes teaching, choreographing, and producing. In 1974, she founded Yolanda's Academy of Music and Dance, which has developed young talent in New Jersey for 30 years. In addition to managing the school, she has taught classes in the gifted and talented program in Union City and in the Woodrow Wilson School for the Integrated Arts. Under her dedicated instruction, more than 38 students have won recognition in statewide talent search competitions and many have continued their dance training at prestigious institutes such as the New York City Ballet's School of American Ballet, the Joffrey Ballet, and established universities.

Her professional credits include a position as a teaching liaison between the New York City Ballet and New York City Opera and the Woodrow Wilson School. Ms. Fernandez-Quincoces was also involved with hosting and producing a television arts program on Cablevision, and has made several guest appearances on other shows. In addition to her current projects, she is a member of the National Education Association, the Dance Educators of America, and the National Guild of Piano Teachers.

For her exceptional work, Ms. Fernandez-Quincoces has received numerous awards, including “Teacher of the Year” for Union City, Hudson County, and the State of New Jersey, and “Outstanding Choreographer” for three different productions from the Dance Educators of America in New York City. Most notably, she was also honored at the Statue of Liberty Centennial Celebration with other well-known artists, performers, and political figures.

Ms. Fernandez-Quincoces emigrated from Cuba to the United States when she was three years old. She began studying ballet at the age of five, training at the New Jersey Ballet, Oneida's Dance Studio, and the American Ballet Theatre. Ms. Fernandez-Quincoces also

received a bachelor's degree in music education from New York University and, in addition to her dance training, is also an established pianist.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Yolanda Fernandez-Quincoces for her years of outstanding teaching and choreographing. She has demonstrated remarkable passion for the arts and has influenced the lives of many with her instruction and creative works.

#### TRIBUTE TO SHEILA PETERSON

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sheila Peterson, who was recently honored with the highest award of Sacred Heart Schools, the St. Madeleine Sophie Medal by the Schools of the Sacred Heart in Atherton, California.

Sheila and her family have had a long connection to the Sacred Heart Schools. First, she had a great aunt who was part of the convent in St. Charles, Missouri. Next, her mother, Winifred Carreras Sullivan went to Jackson Street and Lone Mountain, where she made great lifelong friends. Winnie married Raymond Sullivan, later a distinguished Justice of the California Supreme Court, and Sheila, the eldest of their five children, "met" the Sacred Heart at Broadway in the 7th grade.

Ever since, Sheila has found a connection and a place with Sacred Heart. To quote Sheila, "Sacred Heart/Menlo/Atherton is our place: The first generation was my great aunt; the second was my mother; the third, my sisters and I; the fourth, the Peterson and Sullivan cousins. And at present, my son is on the English faculty and our cousin, Elizabeth is the new Alumni Director. I hope that someday, at some Sacred Heart School, they will find the same satisfaction that I received from helping here".

Over the years, Sheila's involvement with Sacred Heart has taken many forms. She has served as a Room Mother (sometimes for all three of her children), Parent Club Head, substitute teacher, soccer coach, and Auction worker in the Main Building Basement. She has had a hand in sports activities, field trips, drama, the Booster Club, the school's Annual Fund, two Capital Campaigns, and ultimately helped to plan the Centennial Celebration for Sacred Heart. Sheila has recently been working as the Events Coordinator, and as always, doing an extraordinary job.

In 1987, Sheila served on the Board of Trustees. With the support of her husband, Ron, and three children, Molly, Katie, and Michael, she guided the school through the Loma Prieta earthquake, subsequent discussions and contentions about repair or razing, tight finances, a small endowment, and the co-ed Prep in the early stages. All these weighty issues took time and great commitment. Sheila served with distinction and her prudent, wise leadership has benefited Sacred Heart Schools immensely.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great and inspiring member of our community, Sheila Peterson, as she is honored with the St. Madeleine Sophie Medal.

TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVES  
AMORY HOUGHTON AND JACK  
QUINN

#### HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, as the 108th Congress comes to a close, I would like to honor two of New York's greatest legislators—Rep. AMORY HOUGHTON (NY-29) and Rep. JACK QUINN (NY-27), for their outstanding careers in Congress. Unfortunately, Mr. QUINN and Mr. HOUGHTON have decided to retire at the end of the 108th Congress. As Dean of the New York Republican Congressional Delegation, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for their dedication and commitment to their constituencies.

Mr. HOUGHTON, a nine-term Member of Congress and founder of the influential Republican Main Street Partnership, has a legacy of supporting moderate social programs, while encouraging fiscal responsibility and much needed tax relief for hard-working Americans. HOUGHTON is also the founder of the John Quincy Adams Society, an issues forum that brings together moderate officeholders with top business leaders, which has been instrumental in strengthening the moderate movement.

I have had the distinct pleasure of working alongside Mr. HOUGHTON for the past 18 years, and his vision for a less partisan and more effective Congress is truly inspiring. Mr. HOUGHTON worked diligently on more equitable tax and health politics, in his role on the Ways and Means Committee. His counsel and fair-minded manner were always so valuable to myself, and all Members of Congress.

As a senior member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I have had the distinct pleasure of working closely with Mr. QUINN. Mr. QUINN, a six-term Member of Congress and Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Subcommittee on Railroads, has worked tirelessly on a variety of transportation issues, the largest of these being Amtrak and its preservation as part of our Nation's infrastructure.

Mr. QUINN also served as co-chair of the House Labor Working Group, advocating on behalf of organized labor with the Republican Leadership. Possibly the most important task to Mr. QUINN was ensuring a fair wage for all workers, as a leader and supporter of sensible labor policy. As a fellow New Yorker, I see the invaluable contribution of organized labor's representation of working men and women, and commend Mr. QUINN for his unwavering leadership on this issue.

As Members of Congress, we are judged on our records, and I can say with great enthusiasm that Mr. HOUGHTON and Mr. QUINN are men of honesty and integrity. Their work ethic and inspiring ideas, as well as their leadership, will be sorely missed. I am proud to not only call them colleagues, but also friends.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,  
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

#### HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring my colleagues attention to a provision included in the Fiscal Year 2005 Appropriations Omnibus bill, H.R. 4818, titled, "Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Salaries and Expenses." The language included in this section declares that it is the intent of Congress for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to have exclusive jurisdiction over the siting and approval of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals. This language seems to target a pending lawsuit by the State of California challenging the placement of a LNG facility. Although the language is non-binding, I am concerned with the possible repercussions of this provision, as well as the method in which it was added to the bill.

My home state of Rhode Island is currently examining a proposal regarding a LNG terminal in Providence. Members of the Rhode Island Congressional delegation and state officials have been in active discussions with all federal and local agencies that would be affected by this terminal to ensure that the region is properly informed of the hazards of a potentially expanded or new LNG facility. Rhode Island's unique geography and narrow waterways would force the LNG tanker ships to travel through densely populated areas to reach the terminal. The citizens of Rhode Island and our Congressional delegation have justly requested that all safety concerns are addressed before the facility is considered due to the ships close proximity to residential and businesses areas. There is also an increased potential for environmental damage due to dredging, as well as concerns for how increased tanker traffic will affect the commercial fishing industry, which is already under tremendous stress. Further, the U.S. Coast Guard recently responded in a letter to my office that the security of the LNG ships would be a shared Federal, State, local, and industry responsibility.

I understand the FERC's assessment that the shipment of LNG is engaged in foreign commerce, however, this statement severely limits the process and dangers involved with shipping LNG. The delivery of LNG, especially in populated areas such as Rhode Island, greatly impacts the lives of those who live near the transport route. Also, the state and local law enforcement agencies that will be called upon to ensure the public's safety will continue to be stretched thin. Excluding the involvement of the state from the consideration of a LNG terminal is inconsistent with all the information my office has received from various inquiries that unequivocally proves that state and local agencies would be greatly impacted by the construction of a large facility. The federal government is also ignoring the critical expertise and knowledge that can be gained by including state and local experts in this process.

I am also extremely disappointed with the closed-door method that was used to add this

language to the omnibus. Supporting the FERC's exclusive jurisdiction over the siting and approval of LNG terminals is an extremely important decision that is worthy of a full debate in Congress. By including controversial language in an omnibus at the end of the 108th session of Congress, there is no opportunity to amend or strip the bill of this or other, harmful provisions. I hope that my colleagues will join me in more closely examining the full impact of this issue on every state in the next Congress. I look forward to an open debate that will include the input of those citizens and local officials who are most affected by the inclusion of this language in the omnibus. Thank you.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND TYRONE  
CHESS

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Tyrone Chess for his deep commitment to serving others. Reverend Chess was honored at the Holy Ghost Tabernacle's Tenth Annual Banquet Anniversary celebration on November 7, 2004, in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Throughout the years, Reverend Chess has provided a strong spiritual foundation for the members of his community. As pastor and founder of the Holy Ghost Tabernacle Ministries, he has spent years attending to the spiritual needs of his congregants. His tireless service and willingness to help people in need has helped to enrich the lives of so many.

For more than 21 years, he has been active in community and civic affairs, where he has held a variety of leadership positions. Reverend Chess served as the political and social chairperson of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, and is currently the division director for the Hudson County Consumer Affairs and Constituent Services Divisions.

Reverend Chess was born in Jersey City, New Jersey. He attended Essex County College and the American Fellowship Seminary, and received his bachelor's degree in theology from the Adonai Temple Christian Center Bible Institute. He and his wife, Martha, are the proud parents of five children.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Reverend Tyrone Chess for his outstanding spiritual leadership and years of service to his congregation and community in Jersey City, New Jersey.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents, I wish to extend to Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian my congratulations on the occasion of the Republic of China's National Day which was celebrated on October 10th.

Under President Chen's leadership, Taiwan's economy continues to grow and people

continue to enjoy high standards of living. To bolster Taiwan's economy, President Chen has improved Taiwan's trade relations with the People's Republic of China. Moreover, President Chen continues to work for an early breakthrough in Taiwan's dialogue with the PRC.

In the meantime, Taiwan's relationship with the United States is becoming ever stronger. Bilateral trade between Taiwan and the United States topped \$65 billion last year and Taiwan is our eighth largest trading partner. Taiwan and the United States share many values in common such as attachment to freedom; democracy and human rights.

I would like to personally thank President Chen for his support of our war against global terrorism and developmental assistance to a number of African nations.

To President Chen I say "good luck and good fortune". I remain hopeful that our relations will continue to be strengthened in 2005. Certainly, the able leadership of Ambassador David Lee has helped to further our relations with the government and people of Taiwan.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,  
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in reluctant support of the FY 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Bill. I am disappointed that we are only now finishing the nine appropriations bills that should have been completed months ago. I am even more disappointed that this bill is inadequate in meeting the Nation's education, health care, and environment needs. It is outrageous that anti-environmental and anti-choice provisions have been slipped into this legislation without previous consideration by this House.

I will vote for this bill today because it is \$4 billion closer to meeting our Nation's investment responsibilities that would be in the case under a continuing resolution of last year's funding levels. While this bill includes \$14 billion more for our top domestic priorities, this increase pales in comparison to the \$280 billion in tax cuts for this year alone.

Congress must work to do a better job of balancing our priorities. I will continue to work to ensure that we make responsible investments for working families in the future.

BOB DIX, PUBLIC SERVANT

**HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant who has served this institution with distinction.

During the 108th Congress, Bob Dix served as my staff director on the Government Reform Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census. In that capacity, Bob assembled

a remarkable team of experts that assisted the subcommittee in conducting oversight on a number of areas crucial to our domestic and national security.

Over a period of 17 months, the subcommittee held 39 substantive hearings, ranging from the implementation of the President's Management Agenda and E-Gov initiatives to the threats posed at our Nation's airlines and seaports. Bob was the lead staff member of my Corporate Information Security Working Group, which was a public/private partnership that was tasked with creating a uniform set of safe-practice information security standards for businesses, government and consumers. In the process, Bob has distinguished himself as a leading expert on the cutting edge technology issues of our times.

Bob Dix has accepted the position of Vice President of Government Affairs and Corporate Development for Citadel Security Software, Inc., and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his service to the subcommittee and his commitment to public service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PUBLIC MUSEUM OF GRAND RAPIDS, MI

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give recognition to the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Public Museum of Grand Rapids, Michigan, located in Michigan's Third Congressional District, which I represent.

The Public Museum of Grand Rapids is a collections-based educational organization that explores and celebrates the world and our place in it. It seeks to educate and delight the public, contribute to the well-being of its community, and enhance the quality of life in west Michigan.

Founded in 1854, the Public Museum has been owned and operated by the city of Grand Rapids since 1906, serving a broad regional audience of all ages. It is Michigan's oldest museum open to the public and the State's third largest museum, hosting visitors annually from every Michigan county, U.S. State and Canadian province and many foreign countries.

The Public Museum's beginnings date back to December 17, 1854, when a group of amateur historians, scientists, and collectors of antiquities gathered to form the Grand Rapids Lyceum of Natural History. By 1868, the Lyceum had allied itself with a group of interested high school students to form an actual museum with rooms open for "public inspection" in the city's Central High School. Increasingly, the museum shifted away from the display of natural curiosities and oddities, and acquired systematic collections that were useful tools in teaching about human culture and the natural world. A new name was adopted that emphasized the museum's expanded educational role as an operation of the Board of Education: The Kent Scientific Institute Museum. By 1917, the museum occupied two adjacent mansions in the downtown area, was a chartered department of municipal government, and had developed a huge lending program of instructional materials and mounted specimens and artifacts for use in schools.

In 1936, the institution was renamed the Public Museum to better reflect its citizen ownership and operation and multidisciplinary, program-focused character. It had a professional staff and had seen a great increase in historical collections and programs as well as permanent installations. In 1938, the museum's board matched a WPA grant with a bequest and built an innovative, modern building that looked and acted more like a department store than a traditional museum. Inspired by the writings of Newark Museum director John Cotton Dana, the museum was populist in philosophy and presentation, marketing itself in 1940 when it opened as being "as convenient as your corner store, and friendly as your neighbor." By 1964, an incredible growth in service-oriented programming had necessitated building additions and the construction of the Roger B. Chaffee Planetarium along with the acquisition of the 143-acre Blandford Nature Center. The Voigt House, an unusually well-preserved, late-19th century residence, was acquired in 1974 with all of its original furnishings and archives. It is a house museum that balances the didactic historical displays developed in the main museum, especially those focused on furniture design, manufacturing and marketing.

In the late 1970s, even as it became the first museum in the Nation to be accredited by the American Association of Museums, 1971, it was evident that expansion was necessary again in order to maintain standards and better serve a growing audience. In 1982, an extraordinary public planning process was begun that resulted in the creation of a master plan for the museum's growth on a new site in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids. This culminated on the museums 140th anniversary in 1994 with the debt free opening of its 155,000-square-foot VanAndel Museum Center. In total, \$42 million was amassed from more than 25,000 public and private donors for its completion, with major support coming from the VanAndel family.

Community-based exhibition development, object conservation and program development were planned, fabricated and implemented simultaneously with the structure, resulting in multiple exhibitions exploring regional urban, social and industrial history, ethnology, regional art, and environmental education. The museum boasts numerous unique features, including a fully operational 1928 amusement park carousel and completely restored 1928 Mighty Wurlitzer theater organ.

With growth came new opportunities. Professional staff was expanded. Citizens formed a private foundation in support of museum programs that now manages assets of more than \$6 million. The city of Grand Rapids renewed its commitment to operations, while facilitating and encouraging the museum to become entrepreneurial. In response, annual institutional attendance climbed to nearly double the city's population simultaneous with the Public Museum's third award of AAM accreditation (1996). The museum staff manages a collection that now includes nearly 1 million objects in more than 350,000 record groups.

A new temporary exhibition program was initiated, which reached new heights of success with the organization of a proprietary exhibition of The Dead Sea Scrolls, organized in collaboration with the Israel Antiquities Authority. Between mid-February and June 1, 2003, the exhibition hosted a record 235,541 visitors,

having an economic impact on the region of \$9 million. It was the second-most-attended temporary antiquities exhibition worldwide in 2003.

As 2004 draws to a close, the museum is again poised to expand both with new programs and exhibitions as well as a new 140,500-square-foot, state-of-the-art Community Archives & Research Center providing excellent preservation of the permanent collection and expanded public access. The center houses not only museum collections, but also the archives of the city of Grand Rapids and the county of Kent, which collaborate in its planning and operation.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in congratulating the Public Museum of Grand Rapids on the occasion of its 150th anniversary. Its long history of service to the west Michigan community is laudable indeed and we look forward to its continued work in the future.

#### THE RECOGNITION OF MR. ROBERT BAUMANN

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today in recognition of the endless accomplishments of Fire Fighter Robert Baumann who has served the Middletown Township Fire Department for 47 years. Fire Fighter Robert Baumann joined our community in 1957 as a member of the Belford Engine Fire Co. #1 and has continued to volunteer his time, intelligence, and experience to the public ever since. I am honored to acknowledge someone of Mr. Baumann's courage and strength.

During his tenure in our community, Mr. Baumann has been reliable and energetic in all his services. Mr. Baumann is a man who realizes the value of life and would give up his own to save another. Fire Fighter Robert Baumann is a true hero.

The Middletown Community is grateful to have had a man of such character with us for all these years. At the age of 75 Mr. Baumann continues to volunteer his time to the Fire Police Unit by responding to calls from all hours of the night and day, on holidays and weekends. Mr. Baumann has always been there with the unit at fires, assisting the police department when power lines are down, or during any other type of emergency.

Mr. Speaker, I feel privileged to recognize a man of Fire Fighter Robert Baumann's experience who has served our community with such dedication. Once again, I ask that you join me in congratulating Fire Fighter Robert Baumann on a life of public service, and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

#### A TRIBUTE TO RAMONA WILLIAMS

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Ramona Williams for her dedication to strengthening early education for our children

and volunteer efforts to strengthen our community.

Ramona is a life-long resident of the Bedford Stuyvesant community of Brooklyn and does not plan to move. She attended Public School 297, which her two younger children attend now. She graduated from J.H.S 126 and Eli Whitney High School. She has three beautiful children: Jessica, 14, Vanessa, 9, and Jerome, 5, each of whom have a dream of greatness.

Following her high school graduation, Ramona began work as a substitute teacher at Round Table Child Care Center, eventually becoming a head teacher. She enjoys creating curriculum and cultural activities for her students and assisting parents in helping their children. After 16 years of empowering her students, her personal horizon expanded and she accepted a position as Parent Coordinator for Mark Hopkins Intermediate School 33. Ramona works closely with the principal, P.T.A. and as a liaison between the community and school.

As a single parent raising three children and working full time, Ramona finds it important to further her education and has enrolled at the College of New Rochelle pursuing a Bachelors of Social Work. She is a member of the Greater Free Gift Baptist Church Inc., where the pastor is the Rev. William Raymond Whitaker, Jr., Th.M, whom she thanks for his spiritual leadership and wisdom.

Ramona's concern for her church and community has led her to focus on fundraising and organizing outreach events for teenagers, which included finding them summer employment. She also sings in the Tabernacle Choir. Forever thankful in all areas of her life, personal and community, she is grateful for those who inspire her as she strives to make this a better place for others. Her unconditional love and thanks goes to her parents and siblings, and the sparkles in her eyes—Jessica, Vanessa, and Jerome ("Jay").

Mr. Speaker, Ramona Williams has been a leader in our community through her consistent efforts to improve the quality of education for all of our children. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

#### HONORING BARBARA COHEN

#### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Barbara Cohen on the occasion of her retirement from the Phoenixville Chamber of Commerce where she has served as the Executive Director since 1992.

Barbara Cohen has led an extraordinary and exciting life. Born in Philadelphia, she has always displayed energy and determination in all aspects of her life. Her childhood consisted of piano lessons, Hebrew School, Girl Scouts, National Honor Society, and international travel. Barbara was her class valedictorian at Northeast High School in 1959 and, from there, she went on to Temple University where she earned a BS in education and a minor in political science. After graduation, Barbara began teaching 4th grade while attending University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of International Relations.

Barbara was married in 1964 and, shortly after her wedding, Barbara and her husband served their country by moving to Germany for three years where she taught military servicemen and women general education courses they needed to finish their high school educations.

In 1983, ten years after Barbara and her family moved back to Pennsylvania and settled in Valley Forge, Barbara went back to school and earned her Masters degree in interior design from Drexel University. During this time, she was also a full-time mother, driving her children to and from soccer practices, dancing lessons, Hebrew School and many other activities.

In addition to her busy schedule and many accomplishments, Barbara has been actively involved in her community since returning to the States in the 1970's. Barbara serves as a volunteer guide for the Friends of Independence National Historic Park, and as a volunteer guide for the Foundation for Architecture that gives walking tours of historic sites in Philadelphia. Barbara has also served as a board member for the Chester County Tourist Bureau and for the Schuylkill River Greenway Association. Barbara spearheaded an EPA brownfields initiative grant for Phoenixville Borough as Director of the Phoenixville Area Economic Development Corporation and Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce. And she has provided unparalleled leadership and direction for a wide variety of public improvement and revitalization efforts in Phoenixville. Due to Barbara's tireless efforts, almost 4 million dollars has been raised in the revitalization effort and the Borough now stands on the threshold of a magnificent resurgence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring this extraordinary woman for the years of good work she has done at home and abroad and for the many distinguished and remarkable contributions she has made to this community and the people whose lives she has graciously touched.

#### TRIBUTE TO EPWORTH MANOR

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Epworth Manor for its service to the community, and to congratulate all those involved with the facility on its celebration of 85 years in operation.

Throughout this nation's history, taking care of the elderly has never been more critical to our progress than it is now. With so many citizens reaching the age of retirement while having the ability to live longer due to advances in medical science, the services that care centers provide have become vital to a community's subsistence. The legacy of consistent service that the Manor as built throughout the last 85 years has helped to earn people's trust, making them more willing to seek medical help when in need. Facilities like Epworth Manor allow a region to thrive because of the assurance that quality health care is available, and its impact has been invaluable.

Established in 1919 when the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Church

purchased the S.S. Blair Mansion, the facility, formerly known as the Methodist Home for the Aged, initially housed fourteen residents. After numerous expansions, extensive remodeling, and investment in new technology, Epworth Manor has expanded into a 144-bed comprehensive health care facility.

Epworth Manor has demonstrated an unyielding enthusiasm and care for the public which it serves, and its employees have worked diligently throughout its tenure, instilling a sense of pride and comfort into the area's citizens. The center has not only enriched the lives of its residents, but of those in the surrounding communities who have undoubtedly benefitted from the outstanding service that they have repeatedly provided.

For its incomparable generosity, service to the community, and unabated commitment to excellence, Epworth Manor deserves the highest recognition. The center continues to grow and maintain a high level of quality, providing an example that all businesses should follow. I congratulate Epworth Manor on its 85th anniversary and eagerly await its future progress.

ALL LEGISLATION SHOULD BE  
AVAILABLE ON INTERNET 24  
HOURS BEFORE A VOTE

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, last month Congress passed the FY2005 Omnibus Appropriations Bill. The version that passed the House included a provision that would allow Appropriations Chairmen access to IRS tax returns. Once this provision was noticed, the Senate passed a resolution to strip it and the House was forced to go back into a pro forma session to adopt the Senate language. Two years ago, outrage followed the passage of an omnibus bill that included indemnification language for vaccine makers against autism lawsuits.

Earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 4971, the Restoring Democracy to the United States Congress Act. This legislation sought to enact a series of reforms that I believe would have prevented this from happening. If the bill was law, among other things, it would have required the legislation to be online in a searchable form for a minimum of 24 hours before we voted on it.

As an opportunity for Members to clearly state that the current manner in which we often consider legislation is not good for the institution, I am introducing legislation that would require all legislation be available to the public on the Internet and in a searchable form for a minimum of 24 hours before a vote could be considered.

#### INCREASING THE PUBLIC DEBT LIMIT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 18, 2004*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to S. 2986, legislation to

raise the debt limit by a total of \$800 billion, to \$8.18 trillion. This marks the third time in three years that Congress has been forced to vote to raise the debt limit and burden our children and grandchildren for decades to come, raising the debt limit by a total of \$2.2 trillion since 2001.

It is completely irresponsible to be voting to raise the debt limit today without taking additional measures to put our fiscal policy back on track and institute the common sense pay-as-you-go rules which were in effect from 1990 through 2002 requiring that both tax cuts and spending increases be paid for.

Five tax cuts in four years, soaring defense spending on the war in Iraq, in addition to our stifled economy have turned the record surpluses inherited by President Bush into a record deficit of \$413 billion in the past fiscal year.

Unfortunately, we are not considering a reform of our current fiscal policies today, allowing our national debt to continue to rise. As a result, the amount of interest on the national debt—the “debt tax”—that each American family will have to pay will climb to \$9,400 by 2014. America's growing debt will ensure that our taxes will go toward paying interest on our debt instead of keeping our nation safe and strong, strengthening Social Security, or improving education for our children.

I will not vote to raise the debt limit by \$800 billion today, and will only support an increase of the debt limit along with the reinstituted common sense fiscal policy reforms.

#### RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION OF THE SOLANO COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER COMPLEX

#### HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the December 16, 2004 dedication of the Government Center Complex in Fairfield, California, the county seat of Solano County.

The new Government Center Complex is the most ambitious capital improvement project in the history of the county and I laud the project's energy efficiency measures.

The Government Center Complex contains a six-story County Administration Center that achieves the lowest energy cost per square foot for any government facility in the State of California.

The Government Center Complex also contains a five-level parking structure with over 1,000 parking stalls, 20 electric vehicle slots, and a rooftop photovoltaic solar array that generates 119 kilowatts of clean, emissions free power.

Again, I commend county staff and the county's private partners on the timely and fiscally responsible completion of what is truly a landmark building for the citizens of Solano County.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,  
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in reluctant support of the conference report on H.R. 4818, the FY 2005 Omnibus Appropriations bill. Though there are many important and laudable provisions contained in this spending bill, I am troubled by other specific provisions and by the process that this bill has followed.

I am pleased that the bill provides an increase in funding for national security and counterintelligence operations at the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Unfortunately, this Congress has failed in its effort to pass comprehensive intelligence reform legislation, which would ensure that this money is being spent appropriately and that the efforts of our agencies are coordinated.

I am pleased to see that this conference report provides \$1.3 billion for Education Impact Aid, \$24 million more than last year. This program provides funding for military impacted schools such as those in the towns of Eatontown and Tinton Falls. I am also pleased that the bill includes \$250 million for the community college initiative, which will fund workforce development partnerships between community colleges and employers.

Despite these provisions, we have more work to do to fully fund what should be a top priority for this Congress—education. One day after we passed the reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, IDEA, we underfunded aid to schools by \$1.7 billion. Considering the rising cost of higher education, I am disappointed that the bill does not increase the maximum Pell Grant Award. We cannot keep the maximum Pell grant award at \$4,050 and expect families to be able to afford college.

I am deeply troubled that this bill includes such a restrictive limitation on funding for a woman's constitutionally protected right of choice. Specifically, this bill prohibits use of funds to pay for health benefits coverage that includes coverage of abortion. It also protects health care providers who refuse to provide this needed service. Such measures are designed to limit women's rights, and have no business in this bill.

I am disappointed that the Community Oriented Policing Service, COPS, program has been cut by \$142 million. Many of the towns in my district have received funding for police officers through this program, which has made our communities safer. It simply makes no sense to be taking cops off the street at a time when they are more needed than ever.

I am also troubled that this spending bill cuts the budget for the National Science Foundation, NSF, by \$62 million from last year's inadequate appropriation. The work of the NSF provides the basic scientific underpinnings for the most advanced technological research and development in the world. We cannot hope to remain the world's most scientifically advanced nation if we continue to shortchange our researchers.

I am disturbed by the economic situation in which we find ourselves. Congress was forced

to increase its debt limit by \$800 billion—and that is on top of debt increases of \$450 billion in 2002 and another \$984 billion in 2003. The increase in the debt ceiling in just the past 3 years is almost 2.5 times the entire Federal debt accumulated between 1776 and 1980.

We are in this situation because of the choices of the President and the Republican majority. They chose to prioritize tax cuts for the wealthy, rather than adequately maintaining balanced budgets and protecting the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds. They chose to engage in a costly, dangerous, and unnecessary war in Iraq, which has sapped our ability to combat al Qaeda and fund important domestic priorities. They chose to bundle funds for 13 Government departments rather than engaging in a robust debate justifying the policies and priorities that we are asking the American people to pay for.

Perhaps most disturbing about this appropriations bill is the process that it has followed. The infamous provision allowing unprecedented authority for Members of Congress and staff to access the private tax returns of individuals and businesses demonstrates that our budget process is broken. This provision was slipped into a 3,000 page bill which Members had no time to read before voting. The process has become corrupted by the Republican majority, which has evidently decided that enacting pet projects and controversial items that cannot pass on their own merit, are more important than debate, compromise, and good governance.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill because it will allow the important work of the Federal Government to continue. However, I hope that next year's appropriations process reflects a greater commitment to funding important priorities and following a fair and thorough legislative process.

CONGRATULATING DOBBS FERRY  
HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dobbs Ferry High School for winning the 2004 New York State Class C Football Championship.

Through hard work, commitment and by always keeping their eye on the ball, this team completed a perfect 13–0 season en route to the title.

This championship continues the rich tradition that Dobbs Ferry High School has established on and off the football field. By winning this title, Dobbs Ferry has now won the state title two of the last three years. Dobbs Ferry is only the fifth school ever to win a state title in multiple football classes.

By applying the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship and constructive competition to sports and all other walks of life, the school has become a shining example for others to follow.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dobbs Ferry High School on their accomplishment, and I wish them the best of luck in defending their title next season.

A TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS SHERARD

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Phyllis Sherard for her dedication to educating our youth and strengthening our community.

One of the best kept secrets about Phyllis is that she was actually born in Norfolk, Virginia, arriving in New York via North Carolina at the age of four. In spite of this, she boastfully claims to be an authentic product of Brooklyn, having resided in this wonderful borough of New York all of her life.

As the eldest of six siblings, her parents instilled values and traits in her that have become her trademarks. Many people describe her as a born leader who is capable, responsible, compassionate, dependable, and motivational. No matter how high or wide the obstacles, Phyllis' attitude is always, "We can handle it!"

In 1985, Phyllis joined the NYC Board of Education. She always wanted to teach but was encouraged to pursue commercial studies while in high school. However, through her experiences, she realized how important it is to get involved in the education of our children. Following the path that she now says was her destiny, she joined the staff of Project 17—the Drug Prevention Education Program in Community School District 17. Initially, she had second thoughts about the position because she had to take a cut in pay. That was 20 years ago and needless to say, it has been the most fulfilling work of her life. The position opened doors for Phyllis to work with thousands of children, directing, intervening, and changing paths for so many children and their parents. Because of her ability and commitment, she was selected to serve as the Special Assistant to the Superintendent for Parent Involvement.

Phyllis is most proud of implementing The First Clergy Conference, a series of Saturday African American Studies for parents, The Cultural Awareness Summer Program for children, the Christmas Toy Drive, Family Literacy Program, Computer Literacy for Parents, youth conferences, and a general equivalency program for young mothers, as well as working with parents to coordinate the first math, science, & technology parent conference. She currently directs drug prevention education programs for Region Six, which is comprised of 109 schools. This has been the most challenging experience for her. She has also implemented an evening counseling program for at-risk students and their families.

Phyllis is a graduate of Long Island University, where she earned a B.A. in Political Science and a Masters degree in Supervision and Administration. She is the proud mother of Darryn and Jade-Lynn and the proud grandmother of grandson, Darryn Scott.

Mr. Speaker, Phyllis Sherard has been instrumental in strengthening the educational experience for children in our community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.



## TOBACCO QUOTAS AND BUYOUTS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, recently, after years of debate over the government run tobacco program, this body ended a system that limited per-acre tobacco sales to protect prices for growers and others holding quotas. As a compromise, we agreed to a buyout that provides tobacco quota holders \$7 per pound on their allotment paid out in equal installments over 10 years. These installments are paid out of a Tobacco Trust Fund to quota holders and eligible producers; however, the Tobacco Trust Fund is also designated to pay for program losses incurred by USDA.

We must not let bureaucratic red tape short-change the promise we have made to these quota holders and eligible producers. We have an obligation to ensure that they receive what they have bargained for. There are many questions that need to be resolved. We need to clarify and ensure that USDA will follow the intent of Congress. The agriculture committees in the House and Senate should hold hearings to resolve the following issues before we move forward. Issues that should be addressed include: Whether the buyouts are assignable to other parties; are there restrictions on quota holders selling their shares in the private market if they need their payments now and cannot wait 10 years; and what safeguards are in place to assure that these allotments are paid out over the next 10 years?

The projected estimates for this program are \$10.1 billion over 10 years, with the program fully offset by funds from the Tobacco Trust Fund. We have made a promise to these holders and producers, and we must not let misguided direction reduce that promise.

RECOGNIZING BRONSON ARROYO  
OF BROOKSVILLE, FL**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Ms. GINNY-BROWN WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and praise Bronson Arroyo: the fine athlete, hometown hero, and member of the major league baseball world champion Boston Red Sox. I am proud that the hometown he represents is Brooksville, FL, in my 5th congressional district.

Bronson Anthony Arroyo was born in Key West, FL on February 24, 1977. Bronson is a 1995 graduate of Hernando High School in Brooksville, FL, where he excelled in baseball and basketball. He and his wife Aimee still enjoy the comfort of Central West Florida by making it their off-season home.

In 2003, Mr. Arroyo entered the Boston Red Sox organization. In their farm system he pitched a minor league perfect game, won the Red Sox Minor League Player of the Year Award. In 2004, as part of the Red Sox regular pitching rotation, Bronson won a World Series ring.

Mr. Arroyo is often recognized for his athletic accomplishments, and I would also like to

recognize him as a role model for our community. Mr. Arroyo runs a pitching clinic for the United Way, serves food for the Red Sox Foundation, and speaks with school children as part of his community outreach.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to represent Bronson Arroyo, and I am proud to praise him on the floor of this house.

HONORING DOWNINGTOWN WEST  
GIRLS SOCCER**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Downingtown West High School Girls Soccer team for their 2-0 win over the Moon Township team for the 2004 Girls Soccer PIAA Class AAA Championship.

Downingtown Girls Soccer last won the PIAA Class AAA Championship back in November of 2001 after a 7-0 victory and the team was determined to repeat that victory this year.

The Downingtown West Whippets were led by the senior co-captains, Adrienne Weisser and Jill Conaboy. The two co-captains worked against adversity with the challenge of re-vamping their team after the Downingtown High School split into two separate schools: Downingtown East and West in 2003. In the post-season of 2003, the Whippets were determined to work on their game and improve after a late season slump that year and they continued to improve with each game they played.

The Whippets traveled to Hershey, Pennsylvania to play in the finals against Moon Township. In the final game, the Whippets proved to be a strong team with superior skills and easily won their next PIAA Class AAA Championship by shutting out Moon Township 2-0.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the players, coaches, and support staff of Downingtown West High School Whippets for their drive, determination, and commitment to excellence that led them to an outstanding season and the Class AAA championship. The team is comprised of: Kelsea Fortino, Amanda Marino, Jess Dean, Megan Miller, Captain Jill Conaboy, Lauren Sutcliffe, Katie Shannon, Jessica Stevens, Becky Edwards, Sarah Phillips, Katelyn Capps, Captain Adrienne Weisser, Colleen Flanagan, Ali McNeil, Bethany Warren, Christine McLaughlin, Caitlyn Coleman, Christine Thurwanger, Anne Collinson, Ashley Harrington, Kelly Peterson, Emily Fenimore, Sarah Halprin, Amber Reardon, Amber Werner, Coach Rob Smith, Varsity Assistants Mary Schanne and Kelly Cross, JV Head Coach Mike Huffman, Athletic Trainer Joe Iezzi and Assistant Athletic Trainer Jessica Korn.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF THE  
NASA B-52B LAUNCH AIRCRAFT**HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of the B-52B launch air-

craft, tail number 008, the oldest NASA aircraft and B-52 on flying status. This aircraft is flown by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base, California, which is in my district. I am especially proud of those who have worked over the years with the B-52B, making history and providing vital research data for our nation's aerospace programs.

The B-52B is an important piece of our nation's aerospace history, and I am pleased to note that it will remain on display on Edwards Air Force Base for future generations to visit. Visitors will be able to trace the aircraft's history through mission markings along the side of the aircraft that document every research flight it made.

Beginning on June 11, 1955, this aircraft worked on some of the most significant projects in our nation's aerospace history, including the X-15 hypersonic plane, which contributed to the developments of the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo and space shuttle programs. Between 1959 and 1968, the B-52B was the launch aircraft for many of the missions of the X-15, or wingless lifting body aircraft, that contributed to the space shuttle's development. Additionally, through this program, these missions explored areas of high aerodynamic heating rates, stability and control, human physiological phenomena, and other problems commonly experienced with hypersonic flights.

Several remotely piloted aircraft used the B-52B for launching in the 1970s and 1980s. During this time, NASA studied spin-stall, high angle of attack, and maneuvering characteristics. In addition, this was the launch aircraft to develop and test the parachute recovery system for the space shuttle's solid rocket boosters. The aircraft was also used in several tests for the shuttle's drag chute deployment system, which was later installed on the shuttle orbiters.

Most recently, the B-52B was the launch aircraft for the X-43A hypersonic research program. In March of this year, the X-43A flew freely at a speed of Mach 7, carried by the same pylon that carried the X-15. The final flight of the X-43A on November 16 flew a record-breaking speed of approximately Mach 10, almost 10 times the speed of sound, at an altitude of approximately 110,000 feet. The X-43A missions provided research in the area of ultra high-speed flights, such as increasing the affordability, safety and flexibility of such flights.

I commend the many men and women who have worked on the B-52B 008 and its research missions, and I thank them for pushing the envelope in aerospace research.

## A TRIBUTE TO HILMA SHANNON

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Hilma Shannon, who through hard work and determination has realized her dream to teach in the United States, serving a vital role in the education of our diverse community.

Hilma was born in the Republic of Panama in the City of Colon to Enos Williams and Lillian Francis. Her education in Panama consisted of training in elementary education in

both high school and college. She taught school in Panama for 7 years. In 1971, Hilma married and, now, has one daughter, Gavianna. In 1974, she immigrated to the United States and settled in Brooklyn. Her first job was at the Ace of Suede Leather Cleaners where she worked for 10 years.

Hilma's command of the English language needed a lot of work and with the assistance of her daughter, she read and studied constantly to improve her grammar, diction, and general ability to communicate in English. In 1984, she applied for a job with the New York Board of Education to fulfill her dream of teaching again. She was assigned to work as an educational assistant in 1985 at Walt Whitman I.S. 246. Her work included visits to the homes of students who were chronic absentees to encourage their consistent attendance. She took advantage of the Board of Education's Career Ladder program to become a teacher, graduating in 1989 from the College of New Rochelle with a Bachelor of Arts degree majoring in Education and Psychology. In addition, she completed a Masters in Guidance and Counseling and an Advanced Certificate in Guidance and Counseling. Upon completing both degrees she received the prestigious Lester Crow Award and was offered an adjunct position in the Guidance Graduate program.

In 1992, Hilma was assigned to Abraham Lincoln High School as a Bilingual Spanish Guidance Counselor and is there today. She has worked with students from various cultural and linguistic backgrounds. She coordinates "La Herencia Hispana (Lincoln's 1st Spanish Club), the Young Scholars program, The Choice Program, the Liberty Partnerships program with Kingsborough Community College just to name a few. At Lincoln High School, she has also taught Art Appreciation in the after-school program in addition to serving as a full-time Guidance counselor. She participates in Lincoln's Key Club-European Exchange program traveling with the club members to Italy, Austria, Czech Republic, and recently to Denmark.

Lastly, Hilma is a Jehovah Witness and dedicates time to helping others understand the Bible. She is the proud grandmother of grandson Kumar, and the mother-in-law of Jerome.

Mr. Speaker, Hilma Shannon serves as an inspiration to us all through her accomplishments and commitment to educating our children. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1350,  
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES  
EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT  
OF 2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 19, 2004*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1350, the Conference Report to reauthorize the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA).

I commend the House and Senate conferees for putting the best interests of the stu-

dents first in this reauthorization and reaching a compromise between parents, teachers, school administrators, and school districts. This legislation has my support because it responds to the needs of special education teachers and the children they serve.

My vote in favor of H.R. 1350 when it passed the House originally was because of the work our committee did on provisions improving early identification and the goal for full funding. Yet I did have strong reservations about the sections pertaining to discipline and the definition of highly qualified teachers. At the time, I was assured that my concerns and those of my colleagues would be addressed in the Conference Committee. The conferees were able to craft a compromise that will receive broad bipartisan support today in the House.

When a child is identified as having a disability at an early age, their parents and teachers are better able to address their needs and ensure they are integrated into the regular educational setting and curriculum. I have worked hard to secure funding for newborn hearing screening programs, which save schools millions of dollars in special education costs by ensuring early detection and intervention of infants with hearing loss. Further efforts to increase early identification, as H.R. 1350 will accomplish, will save our schools millions more in special education costs.

I believe strongly that Congress must provide the funding promised nearly 30 years ago, and I have introduced legislation that would accomplish this goal. While this bill today does not require mandatory full funding, it is a step in the right direction in fulfilling the commitment we made our states and local school districts to provide 40 percent of the cost of IDEA. We owe it to our students, their families, and our communities, and I will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to make this promise a reality.

Because of the efforts of my colleagues, as well as families, teachers, and school administrators across the country, we are, today, able to put the needs of students and families first. I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of bipartisan legislation that will move us forward in our goal to provide an equal, quality education for all students.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARIE PRINGLE

**HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Marie Pringle who is retiring as a senior budget analyst for the General Administration and Coordination Service in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). She began her career with VA in July 1983. Mrs. Pringle has served her entire VA career in the Department's Office of Budget. During her tenure, VA's budget has grown from \$25 billion to \$73 billion with over 222,000 employees.

Mrs. Pringle's career spans more than 30 years of federal service. She began her federal service in 1972 at the Department of the Army, Office of the Assistant Secretary for In-

telligence, Directorate of Foreign Intelligence, Scientific and Technical Branch, as a clerk typist GS-4. Next she served with the Department of the Army's Office of the Surgeon General, U.S. Army Medical Department Personnel Support Agency. In 1978, she accepted a position in the Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, as a budget analyst. In 1981, she accepted a position at Steuart Petroleum Company in Washington, DC. After 2 years as a motor fuels inventory accountant, Mrs. Pringle returned to public service with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mrs. Pringle has received numerous awards in recognition of her exceptional performance throughout her federal service career. She is a graduate of the Department's prestigious Leadership VA program, Class of 1992. She also was a member of the American Association of Budget and Program Analysts (AABPA).

Mrs. Pringle received a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from George Mason University. She is a native of Washington, DC, and currently resides in West River, Maryland, with her husband Darian. The Pringles have been sponsor parents for midshipmen of the United States Naval Academy and enjoy sailing and cruising on their trawler, the *Galileo*.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Budget Committee, as well as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Benefits of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I can appreciate how challenging it can be to deal with the federal budget. When the committees review VA's five-volume budget submission each February, we see the industrious work of Mrs. Pringle and her associates on behalf of the Secretary. I commend Mrs. Pringle for her more than 30 years of dedicated public service to our nation and to those who have worn the military uniform.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO  
JOHN T. LEWINSKI

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding local official in Michigan's First Congressional District. John T. Lewinski will be leaving the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners in January after 18 years of service. His years of work on behalf of his community represent the very best of Northern Michigan.

Mr. Lewinski's dedication to service should not surprise us though. As a member of the Greatest Generation, he joined the Navy during World War II, and served in the Pacific as a Navy Seabee in Guam. Like so many of his generation, John Lewinski returned home and worked to improve the country he risked his life to protect.

From 1966 to 1983, Mr. Lewinski was a forester's aide with the Gogebic County Forestry Department, working to preserve the Upper Peninsula's treasured forests. In January 1987, he joined the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners for the first time.

Since then, John Lewinski has served as chairman of the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners, chairman of the Airport Board, chairman of the Gogebic County Transit Board, chairman of the Community Mental

Health Board, chairman of Western U.P. Substance Abuse, a board member of the Community Action Agency, and in 2002, as the chairman of the Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners.

Mr. Speaker, John T. Lewinski has had an extraordinary career of service to his community and to our Nation, and I am sure that he will continue his work even after he steps down as a county commissioner. I know that his wife of more than 50 years, Patricia, his three children and five grandchildren are very proud of him, and they should be.

John Lewinski's commitment to his family and his community serves as an example to all of us. I ask the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring him, and thanking him for his service.

---

HONORING THE BROOKHAVEN  
HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL TEAM

---

**HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to recognize the Brookhaven High School football team, the Ohio Division II state champions. The Bearcats' victory over Avon Lake in the championship game capped a season marked by one success after another.

Led by Coach Tom Blake, Brookhaven simply overpowered its opponents on its way to a perfect 15-0 season. Over the course of the year, the Bearcats outscored their opponents by an incredible 579-98 margin, and their record included four shutout victories. Their 42-21 win in the state championship game ended Avon Lake's 29-game win streak.

As important as anything else, Brookhaven becomes the first Columbus City League football team to win a state title in the 34 years since Ohio instituted a playoff system. It is something that all City League coaches, players and fans can take pride in.

As a Columbus public schools graduate, I offer my congratulations to Coach Blake, Principal Robert Murphy, the Bearcat football team, students and supporters. All have earned the right to be called state champions.

---

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT SANTIAGO

---

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Robert Santiago for his dedication to strengthening our neighborhoods and improving the lives of our citizens through his work in various community based organizations.

Robert was born in Brooklyn to Norberto and Heriberto Santiago first generation immigrant parents who migrated from Puerto Rico during the mid 1940's. He attended P.S. 285 and 67, Sands JHS 265 and graduated from Eastern District High School. He graduated with honors from Queens College where he majored in Political Science with a minor in Spanish. After a year at the University of Illi-

nois, College of Law, he returned to New York to complete his studies not realizing the journey would take an additional 10 years. He eventually graduated from Rutgers University School of Law in 1986. In between, Robert became an Army officer, did his masters work at Long Island University in economics and found time to raise a family of three sons.

Briefly practicing law in Fort Greene, he discovered that his true calling was elsewhere. His employment varied from working in several different New York City agencies to owner and operator of several business ventures.

Through the auspices of Colony South Brooklyn Houses, Robert as director of educational programs was able to increase the amount of funding for their educational and day care programs. Educational programs he helped begin for at-risk and homeless youngsters residing in East New York and Brownsville communities remain successful and continue to operate today. He has also served as a consultant on various projects related to community school building and educational development in post-secondary education.

Presently, Robert serves as the executive director of Highland Park Community Development Corporation, a community based organization with a mandate to develop programs and projects that will help improve the quality of life in the northern Brooklyn communities in the areas of education, housing, safety, and economic development.

Mr. Speaker, the record is clear that Robert Santiago has been a leader in our community through his consistent efforts to improve the quality of life of those in need. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

---

KURT BUSCH—2004 NASCAR  
NEXTEL CUP CHAMPION

---

**HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I join millions of NASCAR fans in honoring the extraordinary achievement of an outstanding son of Nevada, Kurt Busch—the 2004 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Champion.

Born in Las Vegas, and a graduate of Durango High School, Kurt developed his racing skills at age 14, driving Dwarf Cars to victory at a speedway in nearby Pahump, Nevada, earning the title of Rookie of the Year in the State Championships. Still a teenager, Kurt won honors as Rookie of the Year for his exciting exploits racing in the Legend Cars Nationals, and shortly thereafter was awarded the same title for his tremendous performance in the Late Model Stock Southwest Series. By 1998, Kurt became the youngest NASCAR Touring Champion with a record-setting victory in the Featherlite Southwest Series.

My favorite raceway, and one of the world's greatest speed venues—the Las Vegas Motor Speedway, is Kurt's home track, where he accelerated his drive to the pinnacle of NASCAR in just four racing seasons. His exciting racing style and "go for it" attitude truly reflect the spirit of Las Vegas, from where he hails. In 2001, as part of the legendary Roush racing team, Kurt was recognized as NASCAR's

Rookie of the Year, setting the stage for a fabulous string of victories and top-10 finishes in 2002 and 2003.

This year, Kurt and the Roush team more than lived up to Nevada's State Motto: Battle Born. With Kurt at the wheel, the team overcame a staggering gauntlet of bad breaks during their dramatic run for the NEXTEL Cup, including a blown motor, blown tires, wheels falling off, spin-outs, and crashes. Despite tire and wheel problems in the final race, which would have sidelined lesser teams, Kurt, beating the odds in true Las Vegas fashion, piloted Number 97 to a thrilling finish for the Roush crew, winning the NEXTEL Cup.

At just 26 years of age, Southern Nevada's own Kurt Busch has reached the top of America's most-watched sport. It is a pleasure to recognize in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the great performance of a great competitor from Las Vegas, Nevada, the 2004 NEXTEL Cup Champion, Kurt Busch.

---

REMEMBERING PEARL HARBOR

---

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the American patriots who lost their lives on the fateful day of December 7, 1941.

In the greatest defining moment of the world's most defining war in our history, over 2,400 Americans were killed and more than 1,100 were wounded at Pearl Harbor, including hundreds of innocent civilians.

As costly as it was in the lives of our men and women in uniform, in military assets, and in esteem and pride, Pearl Harbor was a watershed moment for America.

December 7, 1941 marked the turning point for our Nation and determined the future of our foreign policy. America changed from a Nation turned inward to a strong and unified superpower, steadfast in our commitment to champion and defend the ideals of freedom and democracy.

Pearl Harbor caused our Nation to wholeheartedly commit to winning World War II, changing the course of our Nation's history and the world's future.

The catastrophic loss of American soldiers led to our country becoming the America we live in today. At home and abroad, we fight for the ideals of social and political equality. This policy was founded in the aftermath of Pearl Harbor and continues to be our Nation's moral compass.

This day should not be remembered with hatred or bitterness. It should be a day to honor the bravery of our men and women and remembered as the day our Nation was united and our sacrifices consecrated.

We learned in World War II that no single nation holds a monopoly on wisdom, morality or right to power, but that we must fight for the weak and promote democracy. These are the difficult lessons learned in 1941 and enshrined in Pearl Harbor.

HONORING ANTIETAM BOYS  
SOCCER

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Antietam High School Boys Soccer team for winning the Pennsylvania State PIAA Class A Boys Soccer Championship.

The Antietam Mounts played a vigorous game against the Trinity Christian Falcons. The game was extremely competitive with both teams fighting to win. But in the end, the Mounts pulled out a 4–2 win. This win marked their first state title.

During the championship game, the Mounts were without one of their key players, Christopher Dock. Dock, a junior midfielder and a starter for the entire season, injured his left knee during Tuesday's semifinal win. The Mounts were able to overcome the loss of a key player and still turn in a win.

Today, the Mounts are looking ahead to next season and possibly another state championship. However, the team will lose seven seniors, including one of the team's highest scorers, Eric Kleiman, who scored 87 points and several game winning points.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the players, coaches, and support staff of the Antietam High School Boys Soccer team for their drive, determination, and commitment to excellence that led them to their first Pennsylvania state title. The team is comprised of: Matt Nuding, Ryan Hummel, Tony Furillo, Jared Melot, Vince Baro, Corey Hertzog, Austin Lee, Austin Keller, Seth Cerra, Kyle Cerra, Shawn Troxel, Mitch Weglos, Adam Cubbler, Maarten Koostra, Eric Kleiman, Steve Le, Madison Reece, Dan Pardo, Chris Lavery, Tom Talarico, Matt Stauffer, Pete Smith, Adam Kozlowski, Drew Gilbert, Eric Shank, Tyler Galczynski, Ian Burke, Joseph Stoltz, Scott Kiedeisch, Chris Reed, Coach Milt Scholl, Coach Charlie Weaver, Coach Ralph Hertzog, and Managers Abbey Weaver, Jordan Cunningham, and Dayna Goheen.

THE NEED FOR POSTAL REFORM

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to an urgent issue that we must address in the opening months of the next Congress.

Early next spring, the Postal Service will file for a rate increase, to be implemented in 2006. Unless Congress acts, that rate increase will be one of the largest in history—at least 15 percent, or 6 cents on a First Class stamp. That will cripple an industry already in trouble, and reverberate through our entire economy.

It would be irresponsible and reckless for us to sit back and do nothing.

The Postal Service is the center of a \$900 billion industry, employing 9 million Americans in such diverse fields as manufacturing, advertising, publishing, and finance. This industry

comprises 8.5 percent of the Gross Domestic Product.

The cost of doing nothing will be steep, for the Postal Service, for the 9 million Americans whose jobs rely on the mail, and for every American who sends a birthday card, pays a bill, or orders something from a catalog or online.

Reforming the Postal Service is a crucial responsibility. The Postal Service operates under a rigid, 30-year-old legal structure that does not take into account the technological advances of the past decades. It is saddled with nearly \$70 billion in retiree health costs, worker's comp claims and pension payments. Each year, the labor and infrastructure costs facing the Postal Service rise, while the volume of mail continues to fall. This is a "death spiral" that can only be reversed by Congressional action.

Let me make clear what will happen if we fail to act.

A failure to act is the equivalent of a backdoor tax on every sector of the American economy.

A small business that now spends \$5,000 a year on postage would be hit with a nearly \$1,000 rate increase. And an industry like financial services would get slammed with an increase of over \$600 million in postage costs annually.

Even though we're trying to postpone Internet taxation, a failure to act would raise the cost of online purchases, because consumers will pay more for shipping and handling.

Overall, the American public and American businesses will waste over \$20 billion in unnecessary payments to the Postal Service over the next decade.

This does not have to happen. We have the framework for responsible, comprehensive Postal Reform in the form of legislation that has been approved unanimously by my committee, the Government Reform Committee, and by the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee.

This legislation will force the Postal Service to act more like a business, while also resolving two issues related to the Postal Civil Service Retirement System Funding Reform Act of 2003. This act placed an unusual burden on the Postal Service, making it the only major agency in the government responsible for funding the military portion of its employee retiree benefits. The Act also required the Postal Service to place into escrow any money saved through the legislation—and I believe we should free this money, to allow the Service to make some cost-reducing and productivity-enhancing capital improvements.

I have worked with the Government Reform Committee's ranking minority member, HENRY WAXMAN, as well as Representatives JOHN MCHUGH and DANNY DAVIS to craft legislation that will allow the Postal Service and the industry that relies on it to survive well into this century.

I urge my colleagues to come back next year ready to pass meaningful Postal Reform. There are critics who will say the bill costs too much. I say the cost of not acting is what we really cannot afford.

CONGRATULATING BONNIE JONES  
ON HER RETIREMENT

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bonnie Jones on her retirement as the Escambia County Supervisor of Elections.

A fixture in Escambia County politics, Bonnie Jones was appointed Escambia County Supervisor of Elections by Governor Lawton Chiles on August 1, 1994 to fill the vacancy of Mr. Joe Oldmixon. Mrs. Jones was officially elected on November 8, 1994 and was re-elected without opposition in 1996 and 2000.

Born and raised in Pensacola, Florida, Bonnie gained employment with the Elections office at the young age of eighteen. Her love of democracy and Northwest Florida lead the way to her involvement with other community organizations, such as the Rotary Club of Pensacola, the Board of Directors and Secretary for the Ronald McDonald House, the Woodham High School Advisory Board, and the Pensacola Pen Wheels. Currently she is a member of the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections, the Elections Center Professional Education Program, the Pensacola North Rotary, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Woman's Board of the Baptist Health Care Foundation.

With a partisan atmosphere surrounding the 2000 elections, Bonnie was a fair and steadfast public servant in Escambia County. She was diligent in ensuring every vote was counted, including the large number of military absentee ballots arriving from overseas. Her foresight and wise choice to use the optical scan prior to the 2000 Elections prevented problems in the county with dimpled and hanging chads, which other Floridians experienced.

Today, I salute a woman who has dedicated her life to ensuring liberty and defending the principles of this country. Her exemplary service has guaranteed that the United States will continue to prosper as the world's greatest democracy.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate Bonnie Jones on her retirement and wish her many more years of success and happiness.

A TRIBUTE TO JOELLE BAILEY

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Joelle Bailey for her accomplishments in the field of business and efforts to improve the manners of all people in our community.

Joelle has over 20 years experience in catering, event planning and the restaurant business. Little did she know that a position at Essence Magazine would serve as the impetus for her to enter the food and hospitality industry. At a very young age, Joelle's mom Marie felt very strongly about manners and etiquette and instilled those values in Joelle and her sister Yves. Joelle has taken these values and

turned them into a lifetime mission not only for herself but to assist and instruct others in these areas.

Joelle has learned through some of the best working positions at the Vista Hilton, Marriot and Plaza Hotels and LSG Sky Chefs. She received her formal training at the French Culinary Institute and Sky Chefs. By 1994, she opened Classic Catering which is a full service event planning and catering business that caught the attention of the New York Times, Daily News, NY Post, 98.7 KISS FM and WOR 710. In June 2004, Joelle was featured in the Daily News' "Spotlight On Great People" by Clem Richardson. Publicity aside, Joelle is pleased that her clients and guests approve of her fabulous catering and cooking skills. Currently, Joelle writes several columns, sharing her knowledge on entertaining, etiquette and menu and recipe suggestions. Some of Joelle's most memorable clients have included: The New York Urban League, Diana Ross, Mt. Sinai Hospital, Russell Simmons, Suzanne Taylor, The United Way, Bill Cosby, Children's Television Network, Jackie Robinson Foundation, New York Bar Association, New York University, Columbia University and many more.

Joelle shares her love for young people by teaching courses in the art of etiquette, table manners, sophistication, food, nutrition and basic "101" cooking skills. She teaches these classes for the community in different schools and also in her home. Each event is sponsored with her own personal finances. Adults are welcome as well. Additionally, her very own etiquette/cookbook will be launched next year and a food show is in the works.

On her son Issiah's 3rd birthday March 27, 2004 Joelle launched a not-for-profit foundation called Issiah W. Simms Foundation to help children improve their etiquette and manners. Eight years ago, Joelle realized that she was not satisfied with the etiquette and manners of today's children, teens and even adults. For her, there was a major state of emergency existing in society that needed to be addressed. This concern led her to form the Issiah W. Simms Foundation.

Joelle is fortunate to have wonderful and insightful parents Hubert and Marie Valbrun, mentors (stepmother, Rosette Wayne), teachers and friends who are supportive of her work. She has a degree in Liberal Arts from Pace University and an MBA from Liberty University. She dreams of opening a finishing school that would be free to her Brooklyn community.

Mr. Speaker, Joelle Bailey has been a leader in our community through her entrepreneurial accomplishments and efforts to create a more civil society. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

HONORING 35 YEARS OF  
COMMUNITY SERVICE

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Martin Luther King Observance Committee of Morristown, NJ, in my con-

gressional district, which this year is celebrating its 35th Anniversary.

The committee, a local public service group, has solicited the involvement of the total Morris County community, and especially its young people, in its annual services commemorating the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr., since 1970. This celebration of faith, endurance, and commitment is a tribute to the rich legacy of the life and works of Dr. King.

The Observance for 2005 marks the 20th year that Dr. King's birthday will be commemorated as a national holiday. As an expression of local unity and in recognition of this important event, the Martin Luther King Observance Committee is inviting the Morris Clergy Council to cooperate with the committee in jointly sponsoring the commemorative services on Monday, January 17, 2005.

The Martin Luther King Observance Committee will use for a theme "The Dream of Peace is Dedicated Wholly to Truth." Each of us still makes a difference. Each of us needs to trust, to hope, to care, and to have the courage to make our democracy work for all of us. Yes, today we face great uncertainty and trepidation. Nevertheless, we will pull together as a community and nation during time of crisis. We are Americans indeed.

From those individuals who spearheaded the initial celebration, the late Rachel Viola Jones and Dr. Felicia B. Jamison, the planning efforts has broadened to include members of the Morris Area Clergy Council, with representatives from all major faith traditions. In addition to the two founders, other volunteers who assisted in the early years included Emma L. Martin, George Dorsey, William "Jack Harris, Reginald and Emanueline Smith, Flora Webb, Norman Jean Matthews, Woody Huff, Elizabeth Lubar, Cecelia Dowdy, Rabbi Z. David Levy, and the Rev. Charles Marks.

The core planning committee is continuing to carry on tradition of excellence for this great program and has grown to include dedicated volunteers. Some of those individuals include Charles Jamison, Jr., James Mack, Janet Bonar, Patricia Johnson, Esq., Barbara Klingsporn, Mae Williams, Ronnie Rogers, Elie Sims, Nadine Alston, Rabbi Donald Rossoff, James Vance, Horace Melton, Marian Sykes Johnson, Gerald Martin, Dorothy C. Parker, Agnes Boyd, Rev. Paul Ratzlaff, and the Rev. Jerry M. Carter, Jr. Pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, Minister Dr. David Hollowell, Dr. Judy L. Banks.

Mr. Speaker, I am quite certain that the Martin Luther King Observance Committee will continue in the years ahead to promote the cause of equality and educate our community in helping to promote opportunities for our young people to pursue productive, fulfilling lives. I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Martin Luther King Observance Committee of Morristown as they celebrate 35 dedicated years of serving our community, and especially Chairwoman, Dr. Felicia Jamison.

RECOGNIZING THE LINK BETWEEN  
CARDIOVASCULAR RISK AND  
KIDNEY DISEASE

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I call attention to the link between cardiovascular risk and kidney disease. On December 6, 2004, the Congressional Kidney Caucus, in cooperation with the National Kidney Foundation, sponsored a luncheon in which Dr. George Bakris, MD, from Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, spoke on this troubling trend. I submit Dr. Bakris' remarks for the RECORD:

CARDIOVASCULAR RISK AND KIDNEY DISEASE

Kidney disease is a silent killer, in that, there are no signs or symptoms until you lose >70% of your kidney function. A 50% loss of kidney function increases your risk of a cardiovascular event (heart attack, stroke, sudden death, heart failure) to more than double that of the general population. The risk of dying from a cardiovascular event, if you've lost 50% or more of your kidney function, is similar to that of having had a heart attack. Aggressive measures to achieve guideline goals (JNC7, ADA, NCEP) for blood sugar (HbA1c less than 7%), blood pressure (less than 130/80mmHg) and cholesterol levels (less than 200mg/dl) reduce both cardiovascular risk and risk of kidney disease progression. According to the most recent NHANES 1999-2000 data only 7.3% of Americans with diabetes, the most common cause of kidney disease achieve all three of these goals.

The crisis of chronic kidney disease is that it is "under-diagnosed, under-treated," and the relationship of chronic kidney disease to cardiovascular disease, "under-recognized." It is now estimated that 1 in every 9 adults—approximately 20 million Americans—has chronic kidney disease and most don't know it. The morbidity (hospitalizations, disability) associated with cardiovascular events in people with kidney disease is significantly higher than people without kidney disease. This translates into very high expenditures on the part of Medicare as well as lost wages and a reduced work force due to this disease. At the current rate of increase in kidney disease, we can expect a doubling of the number of people with kidney failure by 2010 at a projected cost of 28.3 billion dollars annually. Therefore, reducing risk of cardiovascular disease and development of kidney disease requires a preventive strategy.

SIKH-OWNED GAS STATION  
BURNED DOWN

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, in the early hours of Thanksgiving morning, two Sikh brothers, Sarabjit and Sukhjinder Singh, arrived for work at the gas station they owned, only to find it burned to the ground with racist graffiti scrawled all around the burning rubble.

I am glad to say that this sad incident was immediately reported to the local Chesterfield County police, to the FBI, and to the Civil Rights division of the U.S. Department of Justice, and all are now diligently working to

make sure that whoever perpetrated this heinous crime is brought to justice.

It seems obvious from the graffiti left at the scene that whoever committed this crime intended to target Muslims—not Sikhs—proving that this unknown arsonist was not just a bigot, but an ignorant bigot. If they had been Muslims, this would still be a senseless and horrific crime, and one to be condemned in the strongest possible terms, because to attack innocent practitioners of any religion for the acts of a handful of misguided fanatics is inexcusable.

But these men were Sikhs. Sikhs are not Muslims; they are not Hindus. Sikhism is a noble independent religion that traces its roots back hundreds of years. It is not part of any other religion. Furthermore, Sikhs believe in one God and in equality for all—an ideal that forms one of the very pillars of our own society.

Swift prosecution and severe punishment of the perpetrators of this crime is the best way to combat this type of bigotry. I am sure every Member of this House joins me in urging the police, FBI, and Justice Department to promptly and thoroughly investigate this matter and bring the perpetrator or perpetrators of this crime to justice. I am sure all of my colleagues will also join me in extending our best wishes and prayers to Sarabjit Singh, Sukhjinder Singh, and their families during this traumatic time.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that one day—a day in the not too distant future—we will live in an America where this type of crime, born out of ignorance and fear, is forever a thing of the past.

#### INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES

#### HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, now that Congress is close to passing landmark legislation that will help our intelligence community, it is time to take a closer look at streamlining congressional intelligence oversight responsibilities. I believe the time for change is now and I am pleased to share with my colleagues a recent editorial in the News-Leader, Florida's oldest weekly newspaper, which explores some of the options once again available to us:

[From the News-Leader, Dec. 3, 2004]

#### JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OVERDUE

The collapse of Congressional efforts to reform the intelligence community dominated the news just before Thanksgiving. The proposed legislation embodied many of the major recommendations of the 9/11 Commission for fixing the executive branch's intelligence problems. Largely overlooked in this reform debate is Congress' failure, so far, to do enough to address its own problems. Yet the 9/11 panel noted that "of all of our recommendations, strengthening Congressional oversight may be the most difficult and important." The commission also pointed out that, "Congressional oversight for intelligence and counterterrorism is now dysfunctional."

The main reason this critically important congressional responsibility is malfunctioning is because it is spread amongst too many committees. That is why the 9/11 Com-

mission urged Congress to replace the current fragmented oversight arrangement with either a House-Senate joint committee or single panels in each congressional body with exclusive oversight and legislative power.

Consolidation along these lines would drastically reduce the time high level intelligence community officials spend on Capitol Hill repeating over and over again the same briefings and testimonies to the various committees now exercising jurisdiction over intelligence activities. Redundant congressional demands are becoming so time-consuming that it is increasingly difficult for these senior officials to discharge their primary duties of attending to the many security issues confronting this nation.

The need to reform Congress' oversight of the intelligence community has been recognized by some members of Congress for years. Henry Hyde, currently chairman of the International Relations Committee in the House of Representatives, proposed legislation to create a Joint Intelligence Committee in 1984. He spelled out what he had in mind in numerous forums, including op ed pieces that appeared in major newspapers. Nearly 17 years ago, Hyde's idea was the top recommendation of the Republican members of the Iran/Contra Committee. Among those endorsing the Hyde initiative were Dick Cheney, Mike De Wine and Orrin Hatch, who served with Hyde on the Iran-Contra Joint Committee. All of these political figures remain major players in Washington.

The reluctance of Congress to get its own house in order is politically understandable. A Joint Intelligence Committee would require a number of committees and their powerful chairmen to sacrifice their jurisdictions over intelligence matters. But given what is at stake, it is time to subordinate such parochial concerns to the national interest.

To really, be effective, a Joint Intelligence Committee must have both oversight and legislative authority. Otherwise, those committees with an interest in intelligence issues will try to recapture their lost purviews. Historically, those committees have been Armed Services, Judiciary, Appropriations and Foreign/International Relations. To mollify these traditional bailiwicks, membership on the joint committee should include representatives from each of these committees. The panel must be small to ensure secrecy and promote individual responsibility and accountability. To encourage bipartisanship, neither political party should have more than a one-vote edge. The committee staff should be composed of apolitical professionals.

In summary, the time has come to think outside of the box and adopt radical congressional reforms to meet national security challenges in the post 9/11 world. The 9/11 Commission put it best when it warned that "the other reforms we have suggested—for a national counter-terrorism center and national intelligence director—will not work if congressional oversight does not change too. Unity of effort in executive management can be lost if it is fractured by congressional oversight."

#### A TRIBUTE TO KEYONA DAVIS

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Keyona Davis for her academic and extra-

curricular accomplishments as well as her commitment to the church and civic organizations.

Keyona was born and raised in the borough of Brooklyn. She is the second daughter of Brenda and John Davis. Currently, she is a senior at the Brooklyn High School of the Arts, where she maintains a 3.0 grade point average and has been continuously on the Honor Roll. She is now enrolled in a Sociology course at New York City Technical College. Keyona is featured in "Who's Who Among American High School Students."

Keyona has been involved in many extra curricular activities that have helped shaped her to become the young woman she is today. For 2 years, she participated in a teen dance company that performed in competitions including the Eastern Dance Association, International Dance Challenge, and ESPN's own dance competition. She is a member of the Berean Baptist Church's Ministry of Sacred Dance where dance is used to present God's message. Keyona is a Girl Scout of the Greater New York area where she has acquired skills to assist in planning various scout activities and setting an example for young girls and her peers. Keyona gives back to her community by donating clothing and volunteering at her church's annual Thanksgiving feed the homeless program.

As an independent young woman, Keyona has had many jobs since the age of 14. She was a camp counselor at the Professional Center for the Arts Dance Camp, clerical assistant at the Office of Children and Family Services, and at the New York State Child Support Office in 2002. She is currently a Senior Operations Specialist at Chase Bank. These employment experiences have helped Keyona grow mentally and gain an understanding of being a positive part of the workforce.

After graduation this June, Keyona plans to be a pre-law student at a 4-year university. A long-term goal has always been to become a prosecutor and a part-time dance teacher. Iyanla Vanzant once said, "Faith and fearlessness fuel your dreams!" Keyona tries to live by this motto with her strong focus and dedication to things she loves.

Mr. Speaker, Keyona Davis, through her accomplishments and maturity, serves as an outstanding role model for all of our young people in the community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable young lady.

#### RETIREMENT OF RITA THOMPSON

#### HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Rita Thompson upon her retirement from the House Armed Services Committee after 30 years of loyal and dedicated service to the United States Congress.

Rita grew up in southwestern Virginia and before coming to work for Congress, she worked for the Department of the Army in the Pentagon for 5½ years.

Rita began her career on Capitol Hill in January 1974 with the House Armed Services



Committee. During her years on the committee she has worked on the Personnel Subcommittee, and directly with the General Counsel and the Staff Director. For the past 20 years she has held the position of Professional Staff Member and served as the committee's senior administrator, managing a multi million-dollar annual budget, and organizing Congressional travel, among many other duties. As a result of her position and responsibilities, Rita has regularly interacted not only with Members of Congress, but also with Senators, foreign dignitaries, and high ranking military officials.

Rita's committee service has spanned six presidents, seven committee chairmen, and seven staff directors. I speak for myself, past chairmen and ranking minority members, and any and everyone who has had the privilege of working with Rita, in thanking her for her tireless work and dedication to the House Armed Services Committee.

Rita's charm has always been a trademark of her personality. In a place where many people come and go, Rita has been a symbol of commitment and dedication from which many of us could learn. I congratulate her on her retirement and thank her for over three decades of honorable service to this Congress and her country. On behalf of the House Armed Services Committee and the United States Congress, I wish you the best of luck as you begin this new chapter of your life.

#### TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM NEIDIG

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor William Neidig, who was recently honored with the prestigious St. Madeleine Sophie Medal by the Schools of the Sacred Heart in Atherton, California.

Bill grew up on the east coast and graduated from Princeton University with an engineering degree before coming West to attend the Business School at Stanford University. After graduation, Bill and his wife Christy settled in Palo Alto because of the city's outstanding public school system, and Bill began in the real estate business.

Fate intervened and the Neidig's enrolled their daughter Stephanie in the kindergarten at St. Joseph's. Bill says that growing up he had never really known a nun. But after meeting the Religious of the Sacred Heart he came to appreciate the well educated women who have devoted themselves to educating his children, and he was sold on the school and wanted to help out.

Bill joined the Building and Grounds Committee in 1990 and joined the board of trustees in 1991, where he has continued to serve ever since, except for a mandatory one year sabbatical. In this capacity, Bill worked diligently to maintain and upgrade the facilities and grounds at Sacred Heart. He has been involved in upgrading St. Joseph's classrooms, offices, and science lab. He developed Spieker Pavilion, the Main Building, the Aquatics Center, the West Wing and the library, the football field, the track and tennis facilities, and most recently the Performing Arts Center. At no other time in the history of Sa-

cred Heart Schools Atherton has so much been accomplished in such a short time period.

Bill has also served on the Finance Committee, where his familiar cry, "Less is more, but will it do everything you need?" has been a guiding principle in the financial decisions of the school.

Bill knows how to ask the right questions and get the right answers. Whenever something needs to be done, he can be counted on to make sure it gets done. He has been extraordinarily giving of his time and talent, and his support for Sacred Heart Schools is an inspiration to all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great and inspiring man, William Neidig, as he is honored with the St. Madeleine Sophie Medal.

#### RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER EARLEY

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Earley, 2004 graduate of Chillicothe High School.

This year Christopher completed a distinguished career as a wrestler at Chillicothe High School, under the tutelage of coaches Dave Kinnen and Ken Stull. Christopher was named to the All District Wrestling Team in 2003, and a State Wrestling Qualifier in 2003 and 2004. During his senior season Christopher enjoyed a great deal of success, as he won the Coach's Award, was named to the Midland Empire All-Conference, and won the District Wrestling Championship. Christopher was also a four-year letterman in wrestling. His academic achievements are equally impressive, as he was the recipient of four consecutive academic letters at Chillicothe High School as well.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in congratulating Christopher Earley and wishing him continued success. Christopher is a great role model for student-athletes in our state, and I am proud to serve him in the United States Congress.

#### IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF PETER V. KILBANE

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Peter V. Kilbane—United States Veteran of WWII, thirty-six year member of the Cleveland Police Department; and most significantly, devoted family man; and friend and mentor to many.

Mr. Kilbane's life centered around his unwavering commitment to his family, to community, and to our nation. He embraced his Irish heritage, and embraced the values, traditions and ethics taught to him by his parents, Mihal Moor and Honora Joyce. Together, Peter and his beloved wife of sixty-two years, Margaret Mary, offered these vital life lessons to their

children: Karen, Grace Ann, Peter G., Peggy, and Mary. He will also be remembered as a loving father figure to Mary Lou Wallish, and to the memory of Harry Spencer.

Mr. Kilbane served our country with honor and courage. His decorated service during WWII reflected his heroic actions in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany, including the Battle of the Bulge. From the front lines fighting for liberty during the war, to the front lines fighting crime along the streets of Cleveland, Mr. Kilbane exhibited the same unyielding dedication and concern for others. He worked in every district within the Cleveland Police Department, and held the position of Lieutenant of Special Operations, Detective Bureau, when he retired in 1987. Beyond his professional commitments, Mr. Kilbane consistently reached out into our community. He held board positions and was an active member of many civic organizations, including St. Malachi Parish, the Holy Name Society, the Fraternal Order of Police, the Emerald Society, and the Retired Irish Police Society. In 2000, the Retired Irish Police Society named him the Retired Irish Police Officer of the Year.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and remembrance of Mr. Peter V. Kilbane—a man of heart, courage and integrity, who lived life with a joyous focus on family, friends and helping others. I extend my deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Margaret Mary, to his children, grandchildren, great-children and to his extended family members and many friends. His kindness, heart and courageous service has served to uplift our Cleveland community, and his shining legacy, spirit and memory will live on forever within the minds and hearts of all whom knew and loved him well.

#### IN HONOR OF ADM SAMUEL LEE GRAVELY

### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of an extraordinary American, ADM Samuel Lee Gravelly, Jr.

Admiral Gravelly passed away recently, but he leaves behind a legacy of stunning accomplishment, which undoubtedly renders him as one of the most significant figures in American military history.

Admiral Gravelly was born in Richmond, Virginia on June 4, 1922. After attending Virginia Union University for 2 years, he enlisted in the Navy Reserve in 1942 and was trained as a fireman apprentice.

In 1943, he participated in a Navy program known as V-12, which was designed to select and train highly qualified men for commissioning as officers in the Navy. As part of his V-12 training, he attended the University of California in Los Angeles and the Midshipmen School at Columbia University in New York City.

On December 14, 1944 Admiral Gravelly successfully completed midshipman training, becoming the first African American commissioned as an officer from the Navy Reserve Officers' Training Course, ROTC.

As a newly commissioned ensign, his first duty assignment was at a naval training station in Illinois, where he was assistant battalion commander for new recruits. Following



that assignment, he began his seagoing career as a sailor aboard the PC 1264, one of only two World War II ships with a predominantly African-American crew.

In April 1946 he left active duty, but remained in the Naval Reserve. He returned to his hometown of Richmond, Virginia, and completed his bachelor's degree in history. Soon after obtaining his degree he was recalled to active duty during the Korean war. His service during that time earned him a Legion of Merit Award, Bronze Star, and the Meritorious Service Medal.

In the 1960's, Admiral Gravely became the first African-American to command a navy warship when he was appointed executive officer, and later, acting commanding officer of the destroyer *Theodore E. Chandler*. That momentous milestone was just one of many in Admiral Gravely's career.

Some historic firsts that he has achieved include: the first African-American to command an American warship under combat conditions since the Civil War, USS *Taussig*; the first African-American to command a major naval warship, USS *Jouett*; the first African-American admiral; the first African-American to rise to the rank of vice admiral; and the first African-American to command a U.S. fleet, commander, Third Fleet.

Admiral Gravely belongs to a group of African-American military heroes whose belief in self and country gave them strength to overcome incredible obstacles and reach unprecedented heights. In so doing they have given hope and pride to the generations that have proceeded them.

Known as a quiet and unassuming man, his life exemplified the words of the politician Adlai Stevenson, who once said "Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime." If this is the measure of a patriot, then Admiral Gravely was one of our greatest.

I find it appropriate to end with Admiral Gravely's own words: "Perseverance is the ability to steadfastly proceed to your goal despite all obstacles. It is the ability to overcome." The spirit of Admiral Gravely will always be with us, just as his words will forever ring true.

#### HONORING DR. TAMMIE LEE DEMLER

#### HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Tammie Lee Demler of Wheatfield, NY, for recently being honored as both a New York State Senate "Woman of Distinction" and the "2004 Pharmacist of the Year."

Since receiving a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy, Dr. Demler has received a number of accolades. She became the President of the Pharmacists' Association of Western New York (PAWNY), and this year was named "2004 Pharmacist of the Year" by the association. Dr. Demler currently serves as the Director of the University's Psychiatric Pharmacy Post Doctoral Residency Program where she mentors graduate students. She has made nu-

merous contributions to both the association and the pharmacology profession.

Dr. Demler received another prestigious award from the New York State Senate this past June, being named a "Woman of Distinction." The award was created to honor women throughout New York that have played an important role in "adding strength, understanding, and inspiration to the diversity and quality of life" in the state; I can think of no one more deserving of this award than Dr. Demler.

Dr. Demler spends much of her free time working for the betterment of the community, such as helping organize the "Taste of Buffalo," a very important annual event. Dr. Demler has made a considerable and lasting contribution to both her profession and our community, and for that she deserves our deepest gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this Congress join me in congratulating Dr. Tammie Lee Demler for being named as both a "Woman of Distinction" and the "2004 Pharmacist of the Year."

#### IN HONOR AND IN MEMORY OF LCPL BRAD FAIRCLOTH OF MOBILE, AL

#### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a young man from the First Congressional District of Alabama who recently made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of freedom abroad.

Lance Corporal Brad Faircloth, a native of Mobile, Alabama, was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, based at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. In July of this year, Brad's unit was deployed to Iraq in support of ongoing military operations in that country. It was there that, on November 25, 2004, he was killed while he and other members of his unit conducted house-to-house searches in Fallujah, Iraq, looking for members of that country's insurgent movement.

Brad set a standard of excellence and displayed the qualities of discipline, devotion, and dedication to country that are hallmarks of men and women throughout the long and distinguished history of the American military. Following his 2002 graduation from Murphy High School in Mobile, Alabama, and after one year as a student at Delta State University in Mississippi, Brad chose to join the Marine Corps. In recent days, many members of his family said he did so in large part in response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, because he felt he should do his part in the fight to protect his country. Brad was an extremely conscientious and dedicated marine, and he was honored recently with the presentation to his family of three Purple Hearts and the Distinguished Service Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I feel certain his many friends in Mobile County and his comrades in the United States Marine Corps, while mourning the loss of this fine young man, are also taking this opportunity to remember his many accomplishments during his brief 20 years, and to recall the fine gift they each received simply from knowing him and having him as an integral part of their lives.

I urge my colleagues to take a moment and pay tribute to Lance Corporal Brad Faircloth and his selfless devotion to not only our country and the freedoms we enjoy, but to a people who are but now in the infancy of a new life—a new freedom—in their own land.

We should also remember his mother, Kathleen Faircloth-Smith; his stepfather, Paul Smith; his grandparents, Dewey and Helen Faircloth; his uncle, Tim Faircloth; and his other family members and many friends. Our prayer is that God will give them all the strength and courage that only He can provide to sustain them during the difficult days ahead.

It was Joseph Campbell who said, "A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself." Make no mistake, young Brad Faircloth was not only a dedicated marine who made the ultimate sacrifice serving in the uniform of his country, but he was also a true American hero.

#### TRIBUTE TO LA HABRA HIGH SCHOOL AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to La Habra High School in La Habra, California as they celebrate their Golden Anniversary.

For the past 50 years, La Habra High School has been more than just an institution for learning; it has become the pride and joy of a community. The teachers and administration work together to inspire students to become life long learners. The school boasts alumni that are not only productive members of society, but have paved a path for future generations to follow. Most importantly, the students of La Habra High School understand the importance of learning and the value of a proper education. Over the years the school has earned many distinctions including the coveted Blue Ribbon Award by the U.S. Department of Education.

Mr. Speaker, La Habra High School has proven to be a first rate educational institution that fosters a positive learning environment for the future of our children. I ask my fellow colleagues in Congress to join me in congratulating the teachers, administrators, alumni, students and parents as they celebrate the school's 50th Anniversary.

#### IN HONOR OF HENRY MELLO

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, Congresswoman ANNA ESHOO, Congresswoman LOIS CAPPAS, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, Congressman GEORGE MILLER, Congressman MICHAEL HONDA, Congressman JOE BACA, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, Congressman TOM LANTOS, Congressman PETE STARK, Congressman BOB FILNER, Congresswoman ZOE LOFGREN, Congresswoman DIANE WATSON, Congresswoman LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, Congressman HOWARD BERMAN and Congresswoman

MAXINE WATERS join me as I rise in honor of a good friend and outstanding public servant, former California State Senator Henry Mello. Henry passed away on September 4, 2004, but will always be remembered for his dedication to the communities of the Central Coast. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends, but his legacy will live on in many ways.

The son of Portuguese immigrants, Henry was born in 1924 in the rural community of Watsonville, where his mother's family had been farming apples since 1874. He had an eye for business and left Hartnell College after one year to work with his family on the apple farms. At the age of 29, Henry founded John C. Mello and Sons Cold Storage and ran it for 20 years before selling it to Del Mar Food Products in 1973. By this time Henry had found his true calling: public service.

In 1966 Henry officially began his political career with his election to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors. He was not afraid of politically charged issues, and in 1972 composed a motion disapproving the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War. Because of his dedication to his constituents and his commitment to the Monterey Bay area, he was elected to the California State Assembly, serving from 1976 to 1980. Henry was then elected to the State Senate, rising quickly to prominent positions, including the majority whip from 1981 to 1992 and the majority leader from 1992 until he left the legislature in 1996.

While in the legislature, Senator Mello was an ardent supporter of many vital segments of our population, especially senior citizens. Senator Mello authored legislation to enact the first programs focusing on Alzheimer's-Respite Care, Adult Day Health Care and the Multipurpose Senior Services Programs. He founded the Senior Legislature and passed legislation to combat elder abuse. In the 20 years that Senator Mello served in the legislature, he authored more than 120 bills on aging and long-term care that have become the law of the land in California.

However, Henry's service and advocacy extended far beyond just one subject. He was also a strong supporter of our ocean's health, authoring legislation to protect fisheries, working to keep off-shore oil away from California's coastline, and petitioning for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. He has created many lasting legacies on the Central Coast, including Wilder Ranch and Grey Whale State Parks, which are enjoyed by thousands of people each year. He also supported the creation of the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems at the University of California, Santa Cruz, which has made tremendous strides in organic and sustainable farming practices worldwide.

When Fort Ord was slated to be closed by the U.S. Army, Senator Mello introduced legislation to create the Fort Ord Reuse Authority to help the state and the region handle the largest base closure in U.S. history. He was also proactive in transferring this area into civilian use, and helped create the California State University, Monterey Bay on the former base. He was a co-author of the Mello-Roos Act of 1982, which provided funding for education and other public projects through tax-exempt bonds. Following the Loma Prieta earthquake, Henry secured a temporary sales tax increase to help the devastated commu-

nities of the Central Coast, a measure which proved to be invaluable to the local governments in their efforts to rebuild. In his hometown, he is perhaps best known to the general public for helping to raise funds to rebuild the performing arts center in Watsonville after it was destroyed in the earthquake. It was opened in 1994 as the Henry J. Mello Center for the Performing Arts, which was particularly fitting because Senator Mello was known for contributing his musical talents on the piano for many state and local functions.

Mr. Speaker, Henry Mello was the consummate public servant and master of the art of compromise. His legacy to the State of California is felt through the landmark legislation that he passed as well as through those whose lives he touched personally. Many of us in the California Congressional Delegation worked closely with Henry throughout our public service careers, and we all wish to extend our deepest sympathies to his wife, Helen, and his sons Stephen, John, Michael and Timothy.

#### RECOGNIZING KYLE MARCOLLA

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Marcolla, 2004 graduate of Chillicothe High School. Kyle accepted a golf scholarship at the University of Missouri—Columbia where he is currently a member of the Men's Golf Team.

Kyle is an outstanding golfer, and I know the University of Missouri is excited about his commitment to the fine golf program in Columbia. I also suspect that Chillicothe High School's Golf Coach John Musser wishes that Kyle could remain on his team for many more years, as he has proven time and again that he belongs to an elite class of high school golfers. Kyle was named a Midland Empire All Conference golfer in 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004; his entire career at Chillicothe High School. He was a 3A State Qualifier in 2001, District Champion in 2002 and 2004, and 3A All State Top 15 in 2002, 2003, and 2004. In 2003, Kyle won a grueling competition to become Missouri State Champion. The St. Joseph News-Press named him Golfer of the Year in 2003 and 2004. In addition to these accolades, Kyle is the holder of several state golfing records.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in congratulating Kyle Marcolla and wishing him continued success. Kyle is a great role model for aspiring golfers in our state, and I am proud to serve him in the United States Congress.

#### IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF JUDGE ANNE KILBANE

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Judge Anne Kilbane of the 8th Ohio District Court of Ap-

peals—fearless sponsor of justice, inspiring role model, and friend and mentor to many. Her untimely passing marks a great loss for her family, friends and colleagues, and for the people of our Cleveland community whom she served with the highest level of commitment, integrity and honor.

Judge Kilbane's unwavering reliability and strong work ethic were gifts from her parents, the late Thomas B. Kilbane and Nora Kilbane, who emigrated from Ireland to Cleveland. She worked at the Cleveland Health Department, then began her studies at the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, where she graduated in 1976.

Elected to the bench in 1988, Judge Kilbane's unequalled work ethic and uncompromising professional integrity quickly garnered the respect of most, and ruffled the feathers of some. Armed with a sharp legal mind and even sharper focus on the public she served, Judge Kilbane shattered the status quo by fighting for transparency in and out of the courtroom.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Judge Anne Kilbane. The courage, vision and integrity that defined her life will be greatly missed along the halls and in the courtrooms of the 8th District Court of Appeals—and will be greatly missed within the hearts of her many friends, including my own. I extend my deepest condolences to her friends and family members, especially her brothers and sisters: Patrick, Mary, Judith, Kathleen and the memory of Thomas, Bryan and Bridget.

Judge Anne Kilbane's life was lived with joy, energy and in unwavering service to others. Her eternal faith in humanity and in the power of justice will continue to serve as an unyielding example and unending force of truth within our legal system, and within the minds and hearts of all who knew and loved her well. Her journey as a first-generation American from the old neighborhoods of Cleveland, to the 8th Ohio District Court of Appeals, reflects all that she was, and all that she gave to us—the possibility to achieve one's dreams; working in service to others; the courage to stand up for what is right; and the integrity to never back down. And Judge Anne Kilbane will forever inspire us all.

#### STATE OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE AND OVERREPRESENTATION IN AMERICA'S PRISON SYSTEMS

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I, like many members of the Congressional Black Caucus, am moved to speak about the state of the African American male and their alarming overrepresentation in the American penal system.

Sweeping changes in crime control and the drastic modifications of sentencing policies have led to a staggering increase in prison populations. Ironically, although the country is experiencing a decrease in crime rates, the inmate population is increasing. According to the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics, the increase in inmate population is

largely due to "truth-in-sentencing" laws that limit early releases, mandatory drug sentences, get tough anti-crime policies enacted in the 1980s and 1990s, and "three strikes and you're out" laws for repeat offenders. Over 2,000,000 prisoners are now held in Federal and State prisons and local jails. Nearly 925,000 Americans are convicted of felony offenses in American courts each year and some 600,000 are incarcerated as a result.

As the national inmate population has increased, the impact on minority communities has been devastating. Two-thirds of the prison population are now racial and ethnic minorities, and for African American males in their twenties, one in every eight is in prison or jail on any given day. Even more upsetting is that African American males born today have a one in three chance of going to prison during their lifetime, compared to a one in seventeen chance for white males. At year-end 2003, African American inmates represented an estimated 44 percent of all inmates with sentences of more than one year.

Despite the notion that the Scales of Justice is blind, it is no secret that racial bias plays a deplorable role in the disproportionate conviction and sentencing of African American men compared to their racial counterparts (who are charged with the same or a similar offense). In addition to racial bias, the high rate of minority involvement in the system reflects a complex set of social, economic, and community problems often tied to poverty, lack of access to education, and unemployment.

While some would assert that "if one does the crime, then he must do the time," it is imperative to remember that once these individuals have done their time and "repaid their debt to society," they should not be thrown back into the fray without the proper tools they need to overcome the factors that initially led to their involvement in the criminal justice system. The transition from prison life is inherently difficult, especially for individuals who have served a lengthy sentence and received little preparation for life in a law-abiding society. In addition to being stigmatized with a conviction, former offenders face challenges finding employment, housing, health care, and public assistance. Often they are also alienated from their families and communities. All of these negative outcomes contribute to increased recidivism, public health risks, homelessness, unemployment, and disenfranchisement.

Perhaps the most significant costs of prisoner re-entry are the impact on children, the weakened ties among family members, and destabilized communities. The long-term generational effects of a social structure in which imprisonment is the norm and law abiding role models are absent are difficult to measure but undoubtedly exist.

African American males are a critical component of African American families and communities. I, like my CBC colleagues, remain poised to take action to reverse the negative trends surrounding African American males and their incarceration and to reinforce this group's positive characteristics.

It is for this reason that Congress members JOHN CONYERS, Jr., BOBBY SCOTT, and I introduced H.R. 5075, which identifies programs and policies that would encourage the successful reentry of incarcerated persons into the community after their release. For similar

reasons, I have continually pushed for the reauthorization of the Community Safety through Recidivism Prevention Act (The Second Chance Act of 2004).

Consequently, I co-sponsored Congressman ROB PORTMAN's bill, H.R. 4676, to reauthorize the grant program of the Department of Justice for reentry of offenders into the community and to establish a task force on Federal programs and activities relating to the reentry of offenders.

While members of the CBC and other conscientious national and state legislators have worked to reform the prison system and provide programs and policies that eliminate many of the barriers that ex-offenders face upon reentry, there is still much work to do. We will continue to fight for the passage of federal legislation to provide former offenders eligibility for public housing assistance, funding for students loans and grants, and assistance in retaining or re-establishing voting rights. We will also continue to push for legislation that would provide tax incentives to businesses that hire former felons, helping them to become self-sufficient upon reentry.

I sincerely believe that we can assist these men, our brothers, to reach their potential when they return to society. I know that this requires the creation of a support system that begins during their incarceration and continues after their release. I believe that we must not give up on these men, but provide them with the resources they need—during and after their incarceration—to contribute to their families and society in a meaningful way.

#### HONORING CONGRESSMAN AMO HOUGHTON

#### HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize Congressman AMO HOUGHTON of Corning, New York, as he retires from the U.S. House of Representatives after 18 years of exemplary public service.

Throughout his time in the U.S. House of Representatives, AMO HOUGHTON was one of those individuals who showed us what a noble calling public service can be. AMO has been a bright, compassionate and valued leader, and he retires as one of the most respected members of Congress, on either side of the aisle. And despite his great responsibilities, AMO always remained deeply rooted in his community, and in our Western New York values.

Throughout his entire career, he remained a fiscal conservative committed to responsible government spending. As the sixth ranking Republican on the House Ways and Means Committee, AMO has played an important role in ensuring that our Nation's tax policy was shaped with the best interests of New Yorkers in mind. His service on the International Relations Committee and as vice-chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa allowed him to use his deep understanding of international affairs to manage important foreign relations matters. AMO also earned a reputation for terrific constituent service; it is easy to see why, for he truly cares about the well-being of each and every one of his constituents.

I salute AMO HOUGHTON for all that he has done for Western New York and New York state in his time here in Congress. Our community owes him a tremendous debt of gratitude. I will certainly miss his friendship, his intelligence, and his warm personality; but I wish him all the best in all his future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this Congress join me in thanking Congressman AMO HOUGHTON of Corning, New York, for his years of service to Western New York, New York state, and our Nation, as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

#### HONORING MOBILE, ALABAMA'S BAKER HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND FOR ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE 2004 MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE

#### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of the Baker High School Marching Band for their participation in the 2004 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

Baker High School, located in Mobile, Alabama, is without question very proud of the efforts of its band. For several months, the 220 members of this group, both musicians and flag corps participants, worked tirelessly in preparation for a performance which took place in front of thousands of men, women, and children lining the streets of Manhattan, and for an audience of millions watching the parade on television here in the United States and around the world.

The members of the band spent the past two years holding multiple fundraisers to raise the money necessary to make this trip to New York. These efforts, which included gift wrapping, selling coupon books to friends and neighbors in the Mobile area, and bagging groceries at local supermarkets, were extremely successful and provided the band with the means to travel to this event. Even the recent devastation caused by Hurricane Ivan could not dampen either the enthusiasm or determination of these fine young men and women to participate in this Thanksgiving Day tradition.

The one hour, 45-block walk down Broadway from Central Park to 34th Street in lower Manhattan gave the band and flag corps ample opportunity to demonstrate its abilities, and they did not disappoint. The total of 96 songs performed by the band were enthusiastically received by the thousands along the parade route, and their talents were showcased even further when NBC gave the band the chance to perform for its nationwide television audience on that morning's broadcast of the "Today Show."

Mr. Speaker, the residents of Mobile, Alabama, are extremely proud of all of the young men and women who participated in this event. I ask my colleagues to join with me and with the families of all of these students in praising them and their band director, Tripp Morris, for a fine showing for south Alabama and a fine performance for the entire country.

## A TRIBUTE AND CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. ALI RAZI

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and congratulate Mr. Ali Razi on his accomplishments during the past year as President of the Building Industry Association of California, Baldy View Chapter. As President and Member of the Board of Directors, Mr. Razi has toiled to meet the growing demand for quality, affordable housing for San Bernardino County residents.

A graduate of King's College, London University, Mr. Razi earned a degree in Civil Engineering, and later obtained a Master's Degree in Business Administration. Following graduation, Mr. Razi went on to lecture at Tehran Polytechnic University, and in 2002 received an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from California State University, San Bernardino. In addition to serving as a cardinal investor in higher education, Mr. Razi has distinguished himself as an eminent force in housing development and construction.

Prior to 1984, Mr. Razi served as Principal and CEO of Ira Engineering and Construction Company, heading the construction of large international projects. In 1984, Mr. Razi co-founded the Stratham Group, a major owner and developer of Southern California real estate. Since then, the firm has acquired and developed more than 10,000 apartment units, single family homes and parcels of land. Mr. Razi received personal recognition as Builder of the Year for 2000 by the BIA, Baldy View Chapter. In 2003, his company was acknowledged as building company of the year.

Throughout his career, Mr. Razi has held a series of prestigious titles. He has demonstrated diligence to education and dedication to successful land development. I am proud to recognize Mr. Razi's achievements and honor him for his steadfast efforts this year as President of the BIA of California, Baldy View Chapter and grant him my best wishes in his future development endeavors.

IN HONOR OF THE HONORABLE  
BRUCE MCPHERSON**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated and passionate public servant, my friend, the Honorable Bruce McPherson. Senator McPherson recently left office after eight years representing California's fifteenth district in the California State Senate. He has served the residents of the Monterey Bay Area as a state senator since 1996, and had previously served two terms as a member of the State Assembly for the 27th district. Though term limits have ended his career as a State Senator, Bruce leaves behind a lasting legacy of service and bipartisanship that I wish to honor here today.

Senator McPherson spent twenty-six years in the newspaper business with the Santa Cruz Sentinel, always staying active in the

community that he loved. However, it was after I stepped down from my seat in the Assembly to run for Leon Panetta's seat in Congress that Bruce heard the call of elected office. After a successful campaign, he became the first Republican to represent Santa Cruz in the legislature since 1976, and since then has continued to win every local election in which he has run.

While in the legislature, Bruce has focused on several key issues, chief among them was education. In fact, while still a private citizen, he took the lead to enhance local education programs, such as creating a literacy program for the county while he was president of the local Rotary Club. This commitment continued as he worked to pass two state school bond measures, and worked annually to lower class sizes and keep them low. His position as Vice-Chair of the Senate Education Committee was a platform for him to work cooperatively within his chamber, as well as with the Assembly and Governor's office on difficult budget decisions.

As one of the Monterey Bay Area's legislators, Senator McPherson also put environmental issues in the forefront of his agenda. He supported the statewide ban on oil drilling off our coasts; helped with the purchase of over 7,000 acres in north Santa Cruz County for preservation; and authored legislation to protect water quality in our oceans.

Looking to take his message statewide, Bruce ran for Lieutenant Governor in 2002, a role he took on with a personal passion after the tragic loss of his son, Hunter. After this unimaginable loss for Bruce and his wife, Mary, they continued their positive and issues-oriented campaign in their son's name.

Mr. Speaker, Bruce McPherson leaves the California Senate having accomplished many goals for his constituency and for the state. As he looks forward to spending time with his family, I wish to honor his work and dedicated public service, and to wish him happiness and success for the future.

TRIBUTE TO MR. EDWARD O.  
WAYSON, JR.**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, a true American patriot, Mr. Edward O. Wayson, Jr.

Ed Wayson passed away on December 4, 2004 and his funeral was held today in his beloved city of Annapolis, Maryland. For all who attended today's service, it was clear that Ed was a man of incredible character and integrity. He was a man who touched so many lives personally and professionally through his humor and sheer joy of life. He believed in making the most of every moment he had and I speak for many when I say his moments were far too few in number.

Ed Wayson was a dear friend of mine and I would like to also pay tribute to his family. He is survived by his brother Boone, his wife of eight years Jeannine, his mother Ruth Ann, his first wife Beth along with their daughters Sarah and Anne, and his stepdaughter Kacey. Ed Wayson was a very successful man on many levels, but he was most proud of his

family. It was impossible to have a conversation with Ed without him mentioning Sarah or Anne. I would like to extend my sincerest thoughts and prayers from my family to his.

Ed Wayson was an active citizen who embraced the American democratic experience fully. Through political campaigns, local charities, lobbying, foundation work, and serving on boards including the Anne Arundel County Bar Association and the Annapolis—Anne Arundel Chamber of Commerce—Ed did not just talk about making a difference, he worked to make the world better for all of us.

During the funeral service today, it was said that this quote from Abraham Lincoln best describes Ed Wayson, and I would have to agree. "Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing." Ed Wayson was the real thing and the world is a better place for him.

GAS STATION BURNED OUTSIDE  
RICHMOND; CRIME MUST BE  
PROMPTLY AND FULLY PROSECUTED**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I was disturbed to learn that on November 25, a gasoline station outside Richmond, Virginia was burned. It was owned by two Sikh brothers. From the graffiti that appeared on the charred remains, it appears that due to their turbans, the person who committed this horrible crime thought they were Muslims affiliated with Osama bin Laden.

It is important to note that whoever the victims of this brutal crime were, it is a terrible act that must be fully and quickly prosecuted. Blaming all Muslims for the terrorist acts of a few is unfair, bigoted, and intolerant. But it is interesting that the victims of this crime were not even members of the targeted group.

Sikhism is a distinct religion from any other, including Hinduism and Islam. It is monotheistic and believes in the equality of all, including equality for women. Our Sikh friends have made many contributions to this country as lawyers, doctors, engineers, farmers, computer specialists, and in many other fields. One Sikh, Dalip Singh Saund, was even a Member of this House from California, serving from 1959 to 1963. He was the first South Asian to be elected to Congress.

The President of the Council of Khalistan, Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, has written to the Chief of Police in Chesterfield County asking for a swift investigation of this incident. He received a prompt response from the police chief stating that the incident is being fully investigated and those responsible will be caught and prosecuted.

It is unfortunate that incidents like this still occur in America. Three years after September 11, people are still attacking anyone they perceive as foreign. This must be stopped. This kind of hate crime does not advance America or its ideals; it only harms our national unity at a time when we are most in need of it.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place Dr. Aulakh's letter into the RECORD.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,

Washington, DC, November 29, 2004.

Col. CARL R. BAKER,  
Chief of Police, Chesterfield County Police Department, Chesterfield, VA.

DEAR CHIEF BAKER: As you know, on November 24, a gas station owned by Sarabjit Singh and Sukhjinder Singh, two Sikhs, was set on fire. Graffiti, including "Go back to Bin Laden," "F\*\*\* Arab gas," and "Never Again Indian Monkey N\*\*\*\*," was sprayed on a dumpster behind the charred station.

This is clearly a hate crime and it is unacceptable. I urge you to prosecute this crime to the fullest possible extent. Do not let the people who perpetrated this crime think they can get away with it.

This would be an unacceptable crime if the owners of the stations were Muslims, as the perpetrators apparently thought they were, or members of any other group. But they are not. They are Sikhs. Sikhism is an independent, monotheistic, revealed religion that believes in the equality of all people, including gender equality. It is not part of either Islam or Hinduism. The perpetrator of this crime didn't even hit the target he intended to hit!

Sikhs are religiously, culturally, and linguistically distinct from any other people in the world. The Sikh Nation has declared its independence from India and is currently under Indian occupation. Sikhs are working to free our homeland, Khalistan.

The incident at the gas station is a setback for the American ideal of freedom for all people and those responsible must be fully and swiftly punished to protect these Sikh businessmen and protect the system of freedom under law.

I urge you to take all appropriate action to bring the criminals to justice.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,  
President.

#### RECOGNIZING DONALD SHERMAN FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Donald Sherman of Independence, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 82, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Donald has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Donald has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Donald Sherman for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF ST. COLMAN PARISH

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the leaders and members of St. Colman Parish, of Cleveland, Ohio, as they celebrate 125 years of faith, guidance and support, embracing generations of citizens throughout our westside Cleveland community.

In 1880, St. Colman Parish was formed to serve the spiritual and cultural needs of the Irish-American residents of this neighborhood. Since that time, St. Colman's has evolved into a parish community that reflects the racial and cultural diversity of the community it serves, wholly embracing and celebrating the brilliantly diverse mosaic that is the rich fabric of the people of this parish.

St. Colman's historical and bright legacy of social justice, community outreach, cultural preservation, educational programs and spiritual guidance, continues to emanate along these streets, offering tangible services and assistance to citizens of all ages. Restoring broken homes and broken hearts is the continuing legacy of St. Colman's Parish.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of every leader and member of St. Colman Parish, as they celebrate 125 years of cultivating faith, hope and heritage for generations of families within our Cleveland community. We also rise in honor and memory of the struggle, sacrifice and triumph of the founding members of this parish, who journeyed to America with little more than faith, hope and the grit to survive. Love and faith still radiates from St. Colman Parish, encircling this neighborhood with light, strength and hope rising on the dawn of a brand new day.

#### OSSIE DAVIS AND RUBY DEE: AMERICAN ARTISTS AND ACTIVISTS

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the life and work of Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, two prolific artists whose achievements have immeasurably impacted the livelihood of African American artists and the African American community as a whole. Together, they helped to knock down the exclusionary barriers placed upon minority artists, effectually ushering in a new age of American art and culture in which the contributions of African American artists have been, for the first time in our history, recognized and appreciated. The pair were recently honored at the annual John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, in celebration of their life's work.

Appearing in more than 20 films, the talented Ruby Dee has enthralled audiences in notable stage appearances such as her role in *A Raisin in the Sun* and *The Balcony*. The recipient of countless cultural awards, Ms. Dee continues to push the boundaries of the pre-

conceived notions of women in film and theater. She has written plays, musicals and several books of poetry, eventually turning her stories into the 1998 critically acclaimed one-woman show, *One Good Nerve*. Truly a trailblazer in her own right, Ruby Dee has played a vital role in the progression of the arts in our country.

An actor, playwright, producer, screenwriter and director, the impressive career of Ossie Davis spans more than half a century. Having written and directed such memorable films and plays as 1970's *Cotton Comes to Harlem* and 1961's contentious exploration of segregation, *Purlie Victorious*, the works of Mr. Davis are long-lasting in depth and scope. A gifted actor, Ossie Davis has shown his versatile talents in a bevy of roles and memorable performances.

In a time of limited opportunities for African-American actors, both Ms. Dee and Mr. Davis sprung from the Harlem cultural scene before meeting on Broadway and forging their legendary partnership, later on pledging their lives to one another as husband and wife. Together, Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee have appeared in more than 50 films, featured in several Spike Lee efforts, including *Jungle Fever*, *Get on the Bus*, *School Daze* and the classic *Do the Right Thing*. Also appearing in *Malcolm X*, Mr. Davis plays himself, reprising his passionate eulogy at the funeral of the slain civil rights leader.

Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee have presided as vanguards of political activism. They have been tireless proponents of the civil rights movement in America as well as staunch opponents of the McCarthyism witch-hunts; the duo has unquestioningly worn the mantle of public defenders for the past several decades. They helped organize and then graced the dais of the first fundraising dinner held by the Congressional Black Caucus and gave us, in Ossie's speech, the direction we have since sought to follow. Ossie told us that "It's not the man, it's the plan," and that admonition has sustained us and created an institution that has grown and prospered through many changes in leadership over the years.

I am personally indebted to Ossie and Ruby for their many contributions to my own Harlem community, including Ossie's service as chairman emeritus of the Board of the Apollo Theater Foundation. Without their efforts, there is no question that our Nation would be less committed to the great moral challenges of our lifetime. The African-American community, as well as the country as a whole, owes them both a debt of gratitude.

#### HONORING CONGRESSMAN JACK QUINN

#### HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize Congressman JACK QUINN of Hamburg, New York, as he retires from the U.S. House of Representatives after 12 years of exemplary public service.

Throughout his time in the U.S. House of Representatives, JACK represented both his constituents and the institution with grace and integrity. He loved his country, his community

and his family, never straying from the strong values he was raised on.

Throughout his entire career, JACK always acted with the best interests of New Yorkers in mind. As the chairman of the House Republican Working Group on Labor, JACK was the "go-to guy" in our conference on a wide variety of labor-related issues. His positions on both the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Veterans' Affairs Committee allowed JACK to do important work on behalf of our Nation's veteran community and passenger rail systems, employees and customers, issues that were of great importance to him.

While he distinguished himself as a Member of Congress and earned the respect of colleagues on both sides of the aisle, JACK was also notable for his esteemed academic career, his knowledge on a wide variety of issues, and his deep commitment to serving his constituents.

I salute JACK for all that he has done for western New York and New York State in his time in Congress. He has been a close personal friend of mine, and I am proud to have worked closely with him here in the House and back at home in western New York.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this Congress join me in thanking Congressman JACK QUINN of Hamburg, New York, for his years of service to western New York, New York State, and our Nation, as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER TEAM

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Martin Luther King High School Soccer Team, which has achieved a New York City Public School Athletic League record 5th consecutive title this year. Part of the oldest High School sports league in the nation, the MLK soccer team has battled many of the top teams in the City and has continually prevailed.

Having been nationally ranked the last 6 years and boasting an overall record over the last 9 years of 221 wins, 14 losses, and three ties, a 93 percent winning percentage, the MLK soccer team has once again reclaimed a championship they have held for 8 of the last 9 years. This is the all-time record for number of championships held by any New York City public school. The team is coached by Martin Jacobson, who has been with the team during the entirety of this its impressive run. In addition to being recognized and written about in a number of local newspapers, the team's accomplishments have also been acknowledged by the Students Sports Soccer website, which ranked them 25th out of soccer teams in the country this year. Many players have not only been driven to succeed on the soccer field, but have gone on to renowned colleges around the country.

I am pleased to congratulate the Martin Luther King High School's Soccer Team. The team's Awards dinner, being held at the School on December 16th, will rightfully honor

a group of talented people who I am proud to represent in the 8th Congressional District of New York. I wish them all a joyous celebratory dinner and many more successful seasons.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARITA HUNTEJADA

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has dedicated her life to serving the people of her community. Mrs. Margarita Hunt-Tejada, District Manager for Community Board #4 in the Bronx, NY will be retiring after 40 years of service.

In her role as District Manager for Community Board #4, Mrs. Hunt-Tejada oversees the delivery of city services to over 140,000 people. She assists in the development of long range strategies as well as plans for their implementation. Under her strong leadership many of the programs and projects advocated by the board are coming to fruition, such as the Bronx Community Court House, the High School for Law, Government and Justice and the East 153rd Street Bridge. In addition, Mrs. Hunt-Tejada can take great pride in the fact that she has helped to get the Bronx Terminal Market Project underway. This project will provide for a large scale shopping mall, a hotel and a much sought after conference center. More importantly, it will create hundreds of new jobs for Bronx community residents.

Prior to her role as District Manager for Bronx Community Board #4, Mrs. Hunt-Tejada served the people of the Bronx in various other leadership positions, including Director of Community Affairs at the Bethel Christian Church, Assistant Office Manager at M. Singer and Sons, located at the Bronx Terminal Market, and Associate District Manager for Bronx Community Board #4.

Believing that there can be no greater vocation than caring for and serving the needs of others, Mrs. Hunt-Tejada has worked tirelessly to help improve the lives of people throughout the Bronx. As a result of her unyielding dedication and hard work over the past four decades, hundreds of thousands of people in her community have been able to enjoy a higher standard of living.

Mr. Speaker, for her many years of outstanding service, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to this remarkable woman.

RECOGNIZING JUSTIN REYNOLDS FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Justin Reynolds of Independence, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 82, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Justin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Justin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Justin Reynolds for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF DR. HENRY T. KING, JR., CANADA'S FIRST HONORARY CONSUL IN CLEVELAND AND NORTHEAST OHIO

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Dr. Henry T. King, Jr., as Canada's First Honorary Consul in Cleveland and Northeast OH, and of the opening of a Canadian consulate office in Cleveland.

Dr. King has been a long-time friend of Canada. As U.S. Director of the Canada-U.S. Law Institute, he has hosted the Institute's annual law conference at Case Western Reserve University School of Law for the last 19 years. Dr. King is a member of the American Bar Association and former chairman of its Section on International Law and Practice. He is currently U.S. Chairman of the Joint ABA/CBA/Barr Mexican Working Group on the Settlement of International Disputes.

Dr. King is a founder and co-chairman of the Greater Cleveland International Lawyers Group. He is also a member and former chairman of the Northern Ohio District Export Council. In addition, he is a member of the Corporate Counsel Committee of the American Arbitration Association and is an advisory board member of the Institute for International and Comparative Law of the Center for American and International Law, formerly the Southwestern Legal Foundation.

Dr. King's strong interest in international law and justice goes back to his days as a young lawyer shortly after the Second World War when he joined with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson as a prosecutor at Nuremberg. This experience had a strong effect on his views of international law and relations, as is evident from his writings on global justice, international human rights, national and international security, sovereignty, and international courts.

Henry King is a graduate of Yale Law School and has an honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Laws from the University of Western Ontario. He was awarded lifetime membership in the Canadian Bar Association. He is a Professor of Law at Case Western Reserve University School of Law and Of Counsel to the law firm of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey in Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly pleased that the people of Canada, in their wisdom, turned to Dr. Henry T. King, Jr., to be the Honorary Consul for Cleveland and Northeast Ohio. Canadians as well as the people of Greater Cleveland will be well represented in this most important international relationship.

## BAT FOR THE CURE

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, each year, about 33,000 Americans die from prostate cancer and 256,000 are diagnosed for the first time. Aside from lung cancer, the disease kills more men than any other form of cancer.

On November 8, 1999, Ed Rendell, one of the country's foremost baseball authorities, was diagnosed with prostate cancer. Early detection and the care of doctors like Nicholas Romas at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center in New York City saved Ed's life.

In late 2002, Ed founded Bat for the Cure, a non-profit charity dedicated to the eradication of prostate cancer. With its prominent Board of Directors, including Bob Costas, Mario Cuomo, Len Elmore, Kathy Giusti and John Hennessy III, the charity has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to fight the disease.

The organization has also enlisted well-known sports stars who are joining in the fight, such as Dustin Baker, Frank Robinson, Tom McCraw, Bob Watson, Don Baylor, Dave Winfield, and Rafael Palmeiro. Many of these celebrities have personal experiences with the tragedy of cancer.

Fortunately, prostate cancer is one of the slowest growing cancers, so proper detection and treatment can save lives. With Bat for the Cure's support, St. Luke's-Roosevelt, the hospital that saved Ed Rendell's life, is now helping many other cancer patients become survivors.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to make prostate cancer research and early detection a national health care priority. Congress should act without delay to double prostate cancer research funding at the National Institute of Health, fully fund the National Cancer Institute, and save prostate cancer research at the Veterans' Administration.

STATE OF THE AFRICAN  
AMERICAN MALE**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss the State of the African American Male conference, a national initiative of the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation to focus our Nation's attention on solutions to the escalating crisis in the Black community.

This past Friday, December 3, I hosted this national initiative in Oakland. Included were a visit to a prison college program, free health screenings at the conference and concurrent solutions-focused workshops. It was attended by nearly 400 people, more than 60 of whom were formerly incarcerated individuals.

The focus of the Oakland conference was on solutions for formerly incarcerated individuals and the challenges that prevent them from smoothly re-entering our communities. The Oakland Police Department reports that some 80 percent of the 114 homicides com-

mitted in Oakland in 2003 involved people on parole or probation. For that reason, I felt compelled to focus the conference in my district on the steps that we as a community and as Members of Congress can take to begin to reverse this alarming trend.

The Oakland Conference was an important opportunity for us to examine closely what were the factors associated with the failure of our corrections system. I wanted to look at the needs and solutions for successful re-entry to our communities.

On the morning before the afternoon conference, I invited my distinguished colleague from the Judiciary Committee, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, and members of the clergy to join me for a visit to San Quentin College. Offering an Associate of Arts degree, the college program at San Quentin prison is the only on-site, degree-granting college program in the entire California corrections system. It is one of only a few in the United States. It is an extension site of Patten University in Oakland, California. The curriculum at San Quentin includes courses such as American Government, literature, ethics and communication.

Without the warden and without other prison officials present, we spent nearly an hour listening carefully to five prisoners who are serving sentences of various lengths. These gentlemen described the rewards of getting a college education while serving their sentences. Even a prisoner serving a life sentence described the positive influence it has had on his life and that he encourages other prisoners to get an education. Another prisoner told us how his bond with his school-age daughter was strengthened by their sharing each other's homework. He talked of the pride he felt at being able to help her with her math for the first time. Yet, these prisoners reported that it is often difficult to maintain the motivation to make major life changes when it takes nearly two weeks for them to receive their mail from loved ones, and costs them \$15 for a ten-minute telephone call.

When family and community ties are so essential to a successful transition, then why do we permit such barriers to be erected between prisoners and the people who care most about them?

The difficulties these prisoners face during the re-entry process are further exacerbated by the fact that since 1994, Pell grants have been denied to individuals who are incarcerated. Why do we permit such barriers to remain when it is clear that education and job training are essential to a successful transition to our communities?

These funding cuts are part of a broader trend that began in 1977, when the California Department of Corrections eliminated rehabilitation from its mission and since then its mission has been solely to punish. When I was in the California Assembly, my colleagues and I attempted to correct this, but were prevented by a prevailing, but ill-informed "tough on crime" ideology. It is outrageous and immoral and in my district in the City of Oakland, we saw the consequences in 2003 in the 114 homicides.

Cost benefit analyses demonstrating the value of college over prisons are well known and well documented. When it is clear that college is better than prison, why do we continue to incarcerate more black males than we educate?

At the Oakland conference, education was just one area of the re-entry process that we

examined. In addition, health screenings were provided in the areas of HIV, prostate cancer, hypertension, diabetes and cholesterol, and all tests were free and open to the public. Provided by National Black Nurses Association, Kaiser Permanente, the Ethnic Health Institute and California Prevention and Education Project this component of the program addressed basic health concerns of Black men.

Congressman DANNY DAVIS, who began the State of the African American Male initiative, joined Congresswoman JACKSON-LEE and me for the Conference. Solutions Conferences have been held around the United States in order to create a clearinghouse of best practices. In the Oakland Conference in my district, Topics for the concurrent Solutions Workshops included: Re-Entry Programs; Record Expungement; Sentencing Alternatives; Employment and Training; Health; Housing; Education; and Funding Sources. When the workshop moderators reported out their solutions, it was abundantly clear that the expertise and assistance and innovative programs exist.

Mr. Speaker, I was proud to announce at the Oakland Conference that one Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Scholarship per year in my district will be designated for a formerly incarcerated person. I was also proud to announce that a second event will be held on Saturday, January 22, 2005 where I will bring together 60 attorneys from the Charles Houston Bar Association and the San Francisco Bar Association to provide record expungement assistance to formerly incarcerated individuals. This will be an opportunity for several hundred people to get a clean slate.

What is needed, Mr. Speaker is for such programs to become a national priority.

Rather than setting up people in the correction system for failure by offering them little means of turning their lives around, we must restore Pell grants to incarcerated individuals. One of the programs in Oakland—Project Choice—provides support services to prisoners before they get out and stays with them. But Project Choice only has funding to support 40 of the 3,000 people paroled each year to Oakland.

Without programs like San Quentin College, Project Choice and others, without the support of their families and communities, these prisoners will return to the life that led them to prison in the first place. As a nation, we must provide alternatives. This is not only a matter of public safety, but is truly our moral responsibility. It is our obligation as members of the human race.

HONORING HERITAGE ELEMEN-  
TARY SCHOOL STUDENTS,  
THOMPSON'S STATION, TEN-  
NESSEE**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, Tennessee is known as the "Volunteer State" because we have a proud tradition of giving back to our community and our country. Today the students at Heritage Elementary School in Thompson's Station, Tennessee are reaffirming our state's reputation for volunteerism by working to support America's military families.



Our men and women in uniform have sacrificed for our security, and their families bear a burden each and every day. The students at Heritage Elementary have made it their mission to give all they can to Operation Stork Support, a program that presents gift baskets to expectant mothers in the Fort Campbell community. These moms-to-be are separated from their loved ones by war, but we can help lessen their burden and show them how much we care. The Heritage Elementary students have raised \$740 in pennies—that's 74,000 pennies—for Operation Stork Support. I thank them for their contribution, their concern, and not least, their love for our military families.

UNDERSTANDING ISLAM AND DEFENDING FREEDOM—LIFT THE DE FACTO GAG ORDER ON NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE SHIRIN EBADI

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, it was religious freedom that brought the Pilgrims to America's shores. In our beloved Constitution and Bill of Rights, we affirm our steadfast commitment to freedom of expression and freedom of the press as pillars of our democracy. Consequently, it pains and embarrasses me, as an American that the executive branch of our government continues to betray our democratic values and preclude Ms. Shirin Ebadi, the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and other distinguished Muslims from publishing their views for all Americans to read.

Ms. Shirin Ebadi is the first Iranian and the first Muslim woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. She is a distinguished lawyer, scholar, and teacher. President Bush has praised her tireless work as a champion of democracy and human rights. She represents Reformed Islam, and argues for an interpretation of Islamic law which promotes international respect for universal human rights. She is devoted to religious freedom, even to the extent of risking her own life, for example, to defend the rights of other faiths inside Iran. In short, she personifies precisely the type of Islamic voice of faith and scholarship with whom our nation should be in dialogue.

Why then is our government, through self-defeating U.S. Treasury Department Regulations, imposing a gag order on Ms. Ebadi? Why are Americans who attempt to help Ms. Ebadi publish her writings now being threatened with severe fines and lengthy prison sentences?

The current over-reaching Treasury Department regulations are demonstrably short-sighted, counterproductive, and unrepresentative of American ideals. That is why I have written to President Bush urging him to reverse to reverse this policy and demonstrate anew America's commitment to freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and the free flow of ideas. I ask unanimous consent that my self-explanatory letter be reprinted in its entirety at the conclusion of my statement. The intent of the regulations, I presume, is to prevent giving beneficial trade revenue to governments that support terrorism, but preventing the publication of ideas is a clumsy, foolish way to try to protect Americans.

Ms. Ebadi's views are the antithesis of those of Osama bin Laden. She is in the same tradition as Solzhenitsen, Sakharov, Sharansky, Walesa, and Havel—all of whom risked their lives to condemn Soviet repression, thus helping give hope to their oppressed countrymen and women and end the Cold War. America should extend Ms. Ebadi and others like her the same support. That would be in keeping with the democratic values and ideals of the American people that have been championed by Democratic and Republican Presidents alike since from the founding of our republic until recent years.

Instead, unbeknownst to many Americans, the Bush Administration continues to enforce unreasonable regulations that silence Ms. Ebadi's voice in America just as effectively as if the Iranian mullahs imprisoned and silenced her, as they have on numerous occasions in the past.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*November 24, 2004.*

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,  
*President of the United States, The White House, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I am writing to urge you to take immediate corrective action to defend America's commitment to freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and the free flow of ideas. Specifically, I ask you to overturn existing trade-related regulations of the U.S. Treasury Department and substitute new regulations that will allow Ms. Shirin Ebadi from Iran to be heard and published as widely as possible in the U.S. and abroad. More generally, the regulations should be changed to allow public speech and communications around the world.

Ms. Ebadi, a distinguished Muslim jurist, lawyer, scholar, and teacher, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003. You have praised her tireless work as a champion of democracy and human rights. She represents Reformed Islam, and argues for an interpretation of Islamic law which promotes international respect for universal human rights. She is devoted to religious freedom, even to the extent of risking her own life, for example, to defend the rights of the Ba'hai community in Iran. In short, she personifies precisely the type of Islamic voice of faith and scholarship with whom our nation should be in dialogue.

Yet, Ms. Ebadi is now prohibited by U.S. Treasury Department regulations from writing and working with American editors to publish her memoirs in the U.S. These regulations are counterproductive for multiple reasons:

They silence Islamic proponents of freedom, democratic reform, tolerance, and universal human rights.

They prohibit Americans from contracting or collaborating with Ms. Ebadi and authors from other restricted countries to create or revise new books for Americans to read, or pay them in advance.

They prohibit American editors, publishers, and agents from working professionally on new or existing books with Ms. Ebadi and other distinguished authors in restricted countries.

Under threat of severe fines and lengthy prison sentences, they prohibit American publishers, editors, and agents from marketing or promoting Ms. Ebadi's writing and those of other pro-democracy authors from restricted countries in the Islamic world and elsewhere.

The practical consequence of these regulations is that American publishers simply cannot do business with Ms. Ebadi and other authors like her and cannot publish their books. Furthermore, Americans who want to

receive more information and learn more about society and culture in Iran, Sudan, and Cuba are limited now to reading what has already been written in such restricted countries. These regulations of the U.S. Government silence Ms. Ebadi's voice in America just as effectively as if the Iranian mullahs imprisoned and silenced her, as they have on numerous occasions in the past.

This policy and the underlying Treasury Department regulations are demonstrably shortsighted, counterproductive, and unrepresentative of American ideals. They urgently need to be replaced by less restrictive and proscriptive regulations that are reflective of American values and democratic traditions and that are consistent with the spirit and letter of the laws enacted by Congress in 1988 and further clarified in 1992 to ensure the free flow of information and ideas in international trade. The revised regulations clearly should enable Americans to contract, pay in advance, and work freely with Ms. Ebadi on revisions of her existing work and the creation of additional writings and to market and promote her writings without constraints.

Mr. President, you have the authority and power to rectify this betrayal of America's commitment to freedom of speech, press and religion. It is also noteworthy that the bipartisan 9/11 Commission has warned that if the U.S. does not act aggressively to define itself in the Islamic world (including the encouragement of more open societies), the Islamic extremists will gladly do the job for us. Accordingly, the 9/11 Commissioners recommend, in relation to the war on terrorism, that the U.S. Government use non-military means in addition to force to define anew what we stand for, and to lead by example in promoting freedom, democracy, and respect for universal human rights.

I can think of no clearer or easier example for America to set than for you to take whatever action is necessary, as a matter of urgency, to enable Ms. Ebadi to publish her writings in America.

Sincerely yours,

RUSH HOLT,  
*Member of Congress.*

DIRECTING CLERK OF THE HOUSE TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS IN ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 4818

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 6, 2004*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday's vote on H. Con. Res. 528 is about much more than just eliminating a provision that Republicans sneaked into the Omnibus Appropriations bill. While that provision would have eroded existing privacy protections of American taxpayers, today's vote also highlights the growing abuse of legislative power and abuse of the public trust by the Republican leadership. It is also about priorities and meeting our nation's needs.

I opposed the massive spending bill when it was considered on the House floor on November 20, 2004, because I was certain that, without carefully examining it, I might be voting for inappropriate, irresponsible, or even embarrassing provisions. Sure enough, that is the case. The provision the Republicans inserted into the spending bill which would allow Members and staff on Congressional committees to

"sneak and peak" at taxpayers' confidential tax filings, and, which H. Con. Res. 528 corrects, is just one example of the controversial changes and omissions included in the 3,000-page Omnibus package.

The Omnibus Appropriations bill includes another serious threat to taxpayers' privacy, one that we are not fixing today. Behind closed doors, the Republicans stripped from the massive bill a House-passed amendment which would have prohibited the Internal Revenue Service from using private bounty-hunters to collect back taxes. That provision, which enjoyed strong-bipartisan support, would have prevented 2.6 million tax returns a year from being turned over to private debt collectors with personal financial stakes—receiving 25 cents on every dollar in making people "pay up." This policy all but openly condones strong-arm collection tactics. Additionally, while IRS employees must respect taxpayer privacy or be liable, the bounty hunters will have no such restrictions. They are free to do as they please, and we have no reason to believe that they will not abuse the power the Republicans want to give them in order to increase their profits at the expense of taxpayer privacy.

Furthermore, 6 million employees are in danger of seeing the 40-hour work week eroded because of another glaring omission from the Omnibus Appropriations bill. In a blow to America's workers, the Omnibus fails to include the Obey-Miller amendment to the Labor-HHS Appropriations bill that passed the House. That bipartisan provision, which also passed the Senate, would have ensured that the Administration's new overtime rules do not harm Americans who depend on overtime to make ends meet, instead keeping in place a vital protection and keeping them from having to work longer hours for less pay.

There are also provisions included in—or excluded from—the bill that would undermine a woman's right to choose, undercut environmental protections, and put workers' retirement security in jeopardy if their employers chose to convert from defined benefit to cash-balance plans. But, unfortunately, it is not only the policy riders and omissions that are harmful to millions within our country. The funding levels of too many vital programs are shameful and jeopardize our citizens and our future.

For instance, the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program, which has helped put thousands of police officers on our streets, is cut by roughly 20-percent. The Small Business Administration's budget is reduced by 18-percent. There is no funding for the 7(a) loan program, which is the SBA's flagship program for helping small businesses get access to capital. Although we are bringing home new veterans every day, the funding level for veterans' health care is at least \$1.3 billion less than what the bipartisan Veterans' Affairs Committee says is needed just to maintain the current level of services. The President's own No Child Left Behind Act is underfunded by \$9.6 billion. Many key housing programs are slashed. Housing for the elderly was cut by \$27 million, and housing for people with disabilities was cut by \$9 million. Assistance for the homeless also saw a \$9 million cut. Community Development Block Grants are funded at \$212 million less than current levels. Contrary to Congress's call in 2002 to double the National Science Foundation's budget over the next five years, the omnibus

cuts NSF's funding by \$61 million below Fiscal Year 2004's level. While those cuts may seem small, they could truly decimate those programs, many which were already severely underfunded. At the same time that millionaires are not being asked to give up one penny of their tax cuts, investments that will make our country stronger are being cut.

Despite its containing controversial changes to the law and gross underfunding of essential government services, facts only known to a handful of powerful Republicans, my colleagues and I were given only a few hours to read the bill which funds 13 government departments, dozens of domestic agencies, and is one of the largest government funding bills to come before Congress. Not even the most accomplished speed-reader could have gotten through the bill in time, which is exactly what its authors were counting on when they rammed the bill through in one day. Such treatment of a bill of such importance is a discredit to the institution of Congress and a serious disservice to our country. One resolution fixing one issue cannot make up for the abuse of power and the abuse of the American taxpayer, employee, student, senior, and family that H.R. 4818 embodies.

#### DIRECTING CLERK OF THE HOUSE TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS IN ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 4818

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 6, 2004*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I support this provision to fix the misguided insertion in the Omnibus Appropriations bill allowing Congressional staff to view individual tax returns. However, I protest the process through which that insertion, and others, were inserted into a 3,000-plus page spending bill without the knowledge of most members and without an opportunity to correct all of them.

One such additional insertion is a provision which effectively eliminates one of our most effective tools to fight crime—the Federal Prison Industries program. Study after study—some of them covering as much as 16 years of follow-up data—have shown that inmates who participate in the Federal Prison Industries program are more likely to be employed and less likely to commit crimes than those who do not take part. And corrections officials tell us that Federal Prison Industries are critical to their maintaining safety and security in the prisons by giving inmates something productive to do with their time. Crime victims and the inmates' dependents benefit, as well. Last year alone, inmate workers paid more than \$3 million from their wages in the form of restitution to victims and support payments to dependents.

Inserting provisions in a 3,000-plus page bill with no opportunity to know about them or review them prior to voting on them, not only violates House rules against legislating on an appropriations measure, but violates principles of transparency and regular order in legislating, as well.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall no. 543, Technical corrections in the enrollment of the Bill H.R. 4818, I was absent due to a medical family emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### HONORING D.C. UNITED AS THE MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER CHAMPIONS

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate D.C. United on winning the Major League Soccer Championship Cup on November 14, 2004. D.C. United beat the Kansas City Wizards 3-2 to win its fourth MLS championship in the league's nine-year existence. Alecko Eskandarian scored United's first two goals, leading D.C. to the MLS title. D.C. United has been the District's most successful sports franchise in recent history and has been called the most successful club in MLS history. The team is a metaphor for the extraordinary progress our city itself has made—balanced budgets and surpluses, retaining and attracting homeowners, and a renaissance in economic development throughout the District of Columbia.

The mighty Black and Red recently celebrated their triumph with a victory rally at RFK Stadium, giving more than 1,000 fans an opportunity to get up close and personal with players, pose for pictures and get autographs. During the rally, Mayor Anthony Williams hailed the "dedication, teamwork and vision" of the champs, declaring November 17 "D.C. United Day" in the nation's capital. Team captain Ryan Nelsen thanked "the 12th man", the great fans of D.C. United.

In a season dominated by news about the signing of our big catch, 15 year old soccer phenom Freddy Adu, first-year coach Peter Nowak moved the focus off the media hype and with his team-oriented philosophy steered United to capture its first Cup since 1999. Nowak said, "They have real attitude and a winning mentality, they're always going to come first and they're always going to be the winners. They shared my vision and they got the cup at the end."

Giving Adu his "props," however, Freddy became the youngest player ever to win a championship in a major U.S. professional team sport. The unassuming teenager, though, preferred to focus on the team's accomplishments rather than his own.

D.C. United also won championships in 1996 and 1997. Unfortunately, after its 1999 MLS Cup, the team missed the playoffs in 2000, 2001 and 2002. But the road back to the top of the league became painted with hard work, patience and a determined eye toward winning the Cup back.

The team is currently conducting its annual United Holiday Toy Drive benefiting Children's National Medical Center. They invite the public

to bring donated toys to RFK Stadium and receive a free set of signed player cards. The toy drive is just one of the United's four community outreach programs. Kicks for Kids provides 10,000 disadvantaged youth with free game tickets, meal vouchers and promotional items; United donates much-needed items such as youth soccer equipment and school supplies to area non-profit organizations; and team coaches and players run six free children's soccer clinics each year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask Congress to recognize D.C. United for its spirit and excellence on and off the field, as the nation's capital celebrates the Major League Soccer Champions.

COMMEMORATING THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN AT KANSAS CITY

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the services of the Consulate General of Japan at Kansas City to the six-state region of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota and to note, with sadness, the closing of the Consulate as of December 31, 2004.

Since the Japanese Pavilion at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair first intrigued and delighted tens of thousands of visitors, the links between Japan and the heart of the American Midwest have grown in strength and diversity. As investment, trade and educational exchanges have increased over the last 50 years, so too have the number and scope of contacts and contracts between these six states and Japan.

The Japanese government has been proud to host Governors from the six-state region as honored guests, along with United States Senators and Representatives, business leaders and leading scholars. In return, Ambassadors, Diet members, and even the Emperor and Empress of Japan have visited the heart of America. But there is much more to the relationship than VIP visits and official statements. The Consulate General of Japan at Kansas City has served the six-state region for 25 years in promoting economic development, fostering cultural exchange and understanding, and in providing consular services to the Japanese citizens and U.S. citizens in this region.

More than one hundred Japanese companies have operations within the region and the Consulate has been a significant factor in facilitating and encouraging such investments to the economic benefit of the region through increased employment and economic activity. These companies employ over six thousand Americans. Exports out of the region to Japan exceed \$900 million per year.

The Consulate has actively promoted and sponsored cultural fairs and activities throughout the region to foster better cultural understanding and exchange. Examples of cultural activities are the Annual St. Louis Japanese Festival and the Greater Kansas City Japan Festival. The Consulate has assisted almost three hundred regional educators to experience Japan first hand through the Fulbright Memorial Teachers Program. Over eight hun-

dred Americans have participated in the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program. Nearly 100 university and graduate students have participated in scholarship programs provided by the Ministry of Education of Japan. Currently, almost 2,000 Japanese university students are enrolled in public and private universities throughout the 6-state region. In addition, the Consulate has coordinated cultural gifts in the form of gardens, gateways, and statuary to numerous local communities. The Consulate has supported and promoted 28 different sister cities and sister state relationships.

The Consulate has provided consular services to the 4,500 Japanese nationals living in the six-state region and, over the years, the Consulate has issued more than 30,000 visas to American citizens wishing to work, study, or live in Japan.

Over the last 25 years, the Consulate has been active in working to resolve trade issues specific to the region and, as an example, the current Consul General, Takao Shibata, has been actively involved in efforts to resolve beef trade limitations imposed out of concern for BSE exposure.

Since arriving in Kansas City in July 2002, Consul General Takao Shibata and his lovely wife Mieko Shibata have become a valuable part of our community. They will be missed by me and the citizens of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

The people of Kansas City and the six-state region regret the closing of the Consulate, but we look forward to a continuation of our close relationship with Japan, and the provision of consular services by the Consulate General of Japan at Chicago.

STAKES IN THE UKRAINIAN ELECTION

**HON. JAMES A. LEACH**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, history unfolds at an unpredictable pace. While we've been preoccupied with "Iraq and our own elections at home, dramatic events have shaken Ukraine for the past fortnight. They must not be overlooked or their implications misunderstood.

Once again in the former Soviet empire, we are witnessing the courage of the human soul and the lengths to which oppressed people will go to seize freedom.

In Ukraine, a country besieged in the last century by two of mankind's greatest 'isms' of hate—fascism and communism—a populace has risen against another kind of 'ism'—corruptionism. We are now witness to the power of the individual standing up against forces of injustice and oppression. We are also witness to the continuing saga of a people aspiring to shape its own destiny, clear of the shadows cast for centuries by powerful neighbors.

At issue is the question of freedom and its transforming effects. Democracy implies more than elections. It implies integrity of process, and when that integrity is lacking, the charade of stolen elections can be more debilitating than unabashed authoritarian rule.

There are geopolitical dimensions to the Ukraine situation that need to be understood in the broad context of the region and its history.

Geopolitically, Ukraine is a large expanse about the size of Texas, with a population of nearly 48 million people, stretching from the wheat fields along a line between Warsaw and Moscow to the palm trees of Yalta, on the Black Sea. The Ukraine was the breadbasket of the old Soviet Union; today, it is an economic and political hinge between the European Union and NATO on the one hand, and the Russian Federation and the Asian landmass, on the other. The western, Ukrainian-speaking half of the country looks to Warsaw and Berlin, Paris and Washington; eastern Ukraine, with its Russian-speaking population, looks more to Moscow. Language creates cultural divisions, but the forces of political cohesion are strong. Both population groups are committed to independence and undiluted Ukrainian sovereignty.

So, in addition to democracy, at issue is Russian imperialism. Instability in Ukraine can only strengthen the hand of an increasingly authoritarian Kremlin. By contrast, a genuinely free election in Ukraine would not only enhance national solidarity but encourage democratic forces in the rest of the former Soviet Union, not least within Russia itself.

Those committed to democracy anywhere in the world should not hesitate to identify with aspirations of the Ukrainian people. Ukraine may be on the distant side of Europe from the United States, but our countries are bound by a common heritage and an inalienable urge for freedom. As Taras Shevchenko, the 19th century Ukrainian poet, wrote: "It makes no difference to me / If I shall live or not in Ukraine / Or whether any one shall think / Of me mid' foreign snow and rain / It makes no difference to me . . . It makes great difference to me / That evil folk and wicked men / Attack our Ukraine, once so free / And rob and plunder at will / That makes great difference to me."

So far courageous Ukrainians have succeeded in halting a fraudulent election. Sensing political winds blowing from a new direction, the once docile supreme court has, startlingly, done an honest job, erasing an injustice and calling for a new election. But the outcome is still in doubt. There is plenty of opportunity before the court-ordered runoff for status quo authorities to attempt, once more, to subvert the democratic process. There can be little doubt they will try to do so. For the KGB alumni who dominate the Kremlin, Ukrainian democracy is more than an embarrassment. It is a threat to their power and wealth and, for some, to their dream of restoring the Russian empire.

No one wishes to poison relations with Russia, but free elections are not an issue on which the United States should or, indeed, can compromise without sully its principles. Nor need we respect the threat of those who are so fearful of losing power that they hint of promoting a division of Ukraine into western and eastern parts. Separatism mis-serves the Ukrainian people. It is a trend that Russia, grappling with Chechnya and other non-Russian regions, can only endorse at great risk.

Differing with Russia may be politically awkward, but once the flame of freedom is ignited, the U.S. and other western democracies have no ethical choice except to stand up in support of the people of Ukraine. The march to freedom in Poland, Czechoslovakia and other former communist-bloc countries has shown that the risk of an outbreak of destabilizing violence is far greater in situations where the

popular will is suppressed than in those where it is allowed to find full expression.

The Ukrainian election set for December 26 is one of the seminal events of this new century. As members of the American people's House, we are obligated to express our support for the aspirations of Ukrainians.

#### REFLECTION OF EIGHT YEARS SERVICE

**HON. NICK LAMPSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, after serving in the People's House for the past eight years, and having the honor of being the voice of Southeast Texas in Congress, I now finally have time to reflect on the accomplishments I've been able to achieve. These are goals that came both from my personal service, and from the work I've been able to do to make the communities within Texas's 9th Congressional District a better place to live.

None of the things I have done would have been accomplished without a true team effort. The local communities, through their leaders, were able to build a communications network that allowed my work here to reflect the needs and interests of the people within the 9th Congressional District. It's been an honor to do that and we did so successfully.

Some of those successes include my work on transportation issues. As southeast Texas's only Member of the House Transportation Committee, I'm especially proud of being able to help bring hundreds of millions of dollars to the region to create jobs and improve the area infrastructure. This includes the work I did to prevent coastal erosion, where I was able to help initiate studies by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine what's causing erosion along upper Texas coast, and how we can slow or stop the loss of protected wetlands, and the potential adverse impact on sports and commercial fishing activities, which impacts the livelihood of many southeast Texans.

We were also able to do a great deal of work to improve highways, airports and airways, waterways, and railways, all of which are important and have provided a better quality of life and economic development opportunities for my constituents. The salt water barrier on the Neches River, which allows for the deepening and widening of Sabine Neches Ship Channel, will further strengthen our waterways while also protecting the Big Thicket National Forest. These activities will also further improve and strengthen the area's petrochemical industry, an important part of both the southeast Texas and national economies, and an industry that provides thousands of good, solid jobs for hard-working Texas families.

I am also proud of my work on the House Science Committee, and to serve as the ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics. My primary work was to promote development of space, and I also introduced the Space Exploration Act in the beginning of my third term. The goals of this initiative were picked up by the President and set before this Nation as a national initiative, which gives me great deal of pride. NASA

needs a larger, important vision to work on, and my proposals always had this concern in mind. We need to continue seeing a growth in civilian space exploration and research. Such activity has the exciting potential of increasing our advances in medicine, technology, education, and the overall positive growth of our great nation. We must always emphasize research and development of science and mathematics, and I can think of no better way to achieve this than through our future in space.

Child safety legislation has also been a top priority from my first days in Congress. My biggest success was the creation of the Congressional Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children, which I founded following the tragic death of a young girl, Laura Kate Smither, in the Friendswood part of the 9th Congressional District. We passed legislation that created the Cybercrime Center, passed many bills like the Amber Alert program, and introduced the Bring Our Children Home Act in the 106th and 107th Congresses, and this year that bill received a hearing by the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House International Relations Committee. I'm very proud of our efforts to reach out to countries around the world for children of parents of dual nationalities. I wrote and delivered a resolution regarding the development of a best practices guide on the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, which was a further step in encouraging compliance with international treaties and allies. One of the most important accomplishments of the Caucus is raising awareness with law enforcement and communities nationwide on the issues of child safety and Internet safety. I hope to see this good work continue in future Congresses, as the bipartisan cooperation and spirit with the Caucus always led me to believe that Members of both parties can find common ground on many problems facing our country. With last year's creation of the Senate caucus on child safety, I know this issue will continue to receive that important attention even after my last day here.

I also want to thank my hard-working staff both in Texas and Washington, who fought hard and effectively served the people of southeast Texas. These talented and diligent individuals supported me on every level, and made it possible for me to have one of the most effective constituent services operations of any Member's office. My staff assisted numerous constituents with getting issues resolved with Social Security and disability, Veterans Affairs benefits, and immigration cases. It truly is wonderful to support retired Americans, new Americans, and Americans who have proudly served in the armed forces to protect our freedoms. I am so proud of all that my staff has done for the people of southeast Texas, and know that they will all go on to wonderful and bright professional futures.

I also want to thank my family for their support and, of course and most importantly, their willingness to let me take the time to fight for our communities. I appreciate their love and support of my efforts so much, for without them none of what I did in Congress would have been possible. We come from a family of teachers, with my wife teaching special education at Vincent Middle School in Beaumont. Both my daughters are trained teachers as well; Hillary, who's currently not teaching because of her family and children, and Stephanie who's a 6th grade math teacher also in

Beaumont. Our family understands what education means to all of us and our opportunities, and as a family we have made a commitment to help other families have easier access to educational opportunities.

In closing, let me say that this is not an ending to my public service. I've spent the last 34 years of my life doing things to make my communities better—my goal now is to help all citizens of our country, particularly those who I represent in southeast Texas, to focus on issues that impact us daily, and to see what all of us can do to make our communities better places to live. So as I say my final words on the House floor, let me echo the words of one of our country's greatest leaders, Attorney General Robert Kennedy, who said, "It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and . . . those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance." Thank you, and God bless.

#### TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE CALVIN DOOLEY

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay homage and respect to my retiring colleague Congressman CAL DOOLEY of California. So much can be said of CAL, but he is a true leader in the Democratic Party.

It was CAL who was at the forefront of the New Democratic Movement in our country. He saw the opportunity to say that the issues of business and the values of the Democratic Party are not in direct conflict. While he may not be the household name of a Bill Clinton—it is the ideas and organization of CAL DOOLEY that helped this country create a President Bill Clinton, a new 21st Century Economy and usher in a return of a Democratic Party disciplined to bring about economic benefits and quality for life changes for people while recognizing that Government is not always the solution.

He was a true pioneer in creating the New Democrats in Congress and making them the powerhouse they are today—a respected organization of people who think outside of the box for real solutions to real problems to help real Americans. CAL was a leader in making our party more globally focused, encouraging free trade and recognizing the benefits to all parties of open economic borders. Whereas isolationism was in the past the default policy of Democrats, he worked to pry us onto a new path—a path of economic globalism. The result—the USA is an even stronger economic powerhouse than in the past.

While the people of his district have been recognizing him and thanking him for his leadership on their issues for 7 straight terms now we in Washington are now realizing our loss to this Chamber and to the thinking of our Party. We thank you and we appreciate you and less, we are still listening to you.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF NILES,  
MICHIGAN

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the City of Niles, Michigan for the dedication of its downtown "streetscape" project. Over the past two years countless individuals tirelessly worked to bring this project to this remarkable pinnacle. With the addition of new streetlights, new planters, new patterned filled sidewalks, new drinking fountains, new benches, and new trash receptacles, the folks of Niles now have a tremendous downtown to be proud of. I had the great privilege of recently visiting the new streetscape and it is terrific.

The finishing of the "streetscape" couldn't have come at a more appropriate or meaningful time as families and friends come together to celebrate the holidays. Volunteers have diligently worked stringing garlands along fences, threading strands of lights into the trees, and placing ribbons and wreaths on the new historic streetlights, all in an effort to make the downtown ready for its holiday celebration.

Southwest Michigan and especially the folks of Niles truly have a magnificent historic downtown to cherish for years to come. On behalf of the Sixth District of Michigan I would like to especially pay tribute and give thanks to everyone who volunteered and worked on preserving and beautifying this great city.

HONORING CIVIL AIR PATROL  
CADET 1LT BRIAN M. MOONEY

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and contributions of Civil Air Patrol Cadet 1LT Brian M. Mooney. The Civil Air Patrol, an Auxiliary of the United States Air Force, is dedicated to educating the American public on air related topics and providing emergency services and disaster relief efforts.

During First Lieutenant Mooney's extensive tenure as a Suffolk County Cadet, he exemplified what it means to be a dedicated and passionate member of the Civil Air Patrol. After originally joining the Air Patrol as a member of the COL F.S. Gabreski Squadron in 1998, Cadet Mooney worked hard to help that squadron earn a Unit Citation for 1999. In 2001, First Lieutenant Mooney became Commander of Suffolk County Cadet Squadron 5, where he served diligently until his 21st birthday.

Sadly, First Lieutenant Mooney passed away prematurely on October 16, 2004. First Lieutenant Mooney was truly an individual respected by his community and he will continue to be remembered as someone who always had a kind word for friends and strangers alike. Mr. Mooney's loving family, surrogate mother and all of his friends and compatriots in the Air Patrol will miss his dedication to life and to his duties as a Squadron Commander.

In a fitting and lasting tribute to the many contributions First Lieutenant Mooney made to

the Air Patrol organization, I was pleased to learn about a recent decision to rename Squadron 5 after Brian M. Mooney. This will undoubtedly serve as a reminder to young cadets that their unit respects the outstanding works of former Squadron members.

In December of 2000, First Lieutenant Mooney received one of the Air Patrol's highest honors by earning the illustrious General Billy Mitchell Award. Named for BG Billy Mitchell, this commendation represents a significant achievement requiring a strong work ethic and an exhaustive knowledge of aerospace issues.

First Lieutenant Mooney's experience in the Civil Air Patrol could serve as a guide for all young cadets. Early in his tenure, Mooney was elected Vice-Chairperson for the Long Island Group Cadet Advisory Council and following his work there, was elected Chairperson for the LI Group and was named as a Member of the New York Wing Cadet Advisory Council.

First Lieutenant Mooney's work as Commander shows the overwhelming pride that he had in his unit and in his fellow cadets. One year after becoming Commander, Mooney was named Long Island Group's Cadet of Distinction 2002, and during the course of only two years of his service in the Air Patrol, Mooney was responsible for increasing recruitment for his squadron from five to forty-plus cadets.

I can think of few individuals more suitable for recognition by this body. First Lieutenant Mooney's work with the Civil Air Patrol influenced numerous cadets on Long Island and the members of the Squadron now bearing his name will sorely miss him. First Lieutenant Mooney shows that selfless dedication to a cause and dogged pursuit of one's goals reflect positively on the community as a whole.

First Lieutenant Mooney's brief life was filled with extensive contributions to family and fellow cadets alike, and I appreciate the opportunity to commemorate his work in the Civil Air Patrol. I would also urge that the current cadets in the Brian M. Mooney Civil Air Patrol Squadron memorialize First Lieutenant Mooney's achievements by continuing his good works.

A TRIBUTE TO KATHY  
TAVOULARIS ON HER RETIREMENT

**HON. CHRISTOPHER COX**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Californian. Kathy Tavoularis is retiring from her position as the Executive Director of the Republican Party of Orange County, where she has directed the day-to-day operations of the county Republican Central Committee for over a decade.

Kathy began her involvement with the county party as a college intern in 1991, and was hired in 1993 as Office Director.

Kathy represents so much of the diversity that makes Orange County such a lively and interesting place. She was born in Montreal, Quebec in 1970 to George and Maria, who had emigrated to Canada 10 years earlier from Greece. She grew up outside of Chicago,

Illinois and became a life-long fan of the Chicago Cubs and the Chicago Bears. Kathy is fluent in Greek and conversational in Quebecois French from her days in Canada. She has also traveled extensively in Europe.

She graduated from California State University, Long Beach, earning a B.A. in Political Science, with an emphasis in Politics and Policy Formation. Kathy worked three jobs at once to pay her way through college and received her degree after only 3 years.

Kathy has been a dedicated member of the Orange County Republican Women Federated, the Orange County Young Republicans, an appointed Member of the California Republican Party, and has worked at the 1996, 2000 and 2004 Republican National Conventions.

Kathy regularly attends St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Anaheim, where she is active in Bible Study and Early Church History Classes.

On behalf of my colleagues, let me join the many friends, co-workers and admirers in wishing Kathy Tavoularis nothing but the best in her future endeavors. She leaves behind an enormously positive legacy for the residents of Orange County, local community leaders, and in helping to make Orange County "the most Republican county" in America.

INTERNET TAX  
NONDISCRIMINATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS CANNON**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 19, 2004*

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, first, I would like to commend the House and Senate for passing the 3 year extension on the moratorium for Internet taxes and the President for signing the bill last Friday. I am pleased that we were able to extend the moratorium, I agree with the gentleman from Wisconsin, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, that the moratorium should be made permanent. I look forward to working with him and others next year to achieve this very important goal.

Second, for clarification purposes on the grandfather of states that tax Internet access, I wish to offer an explanation distinguishing the difference between the pre-October 1998 and pre-November 2003 dates as found in Section 1104.

While both sections use the term "Internet access," Section 1104(a), the provision for pre-October 1998 taxes, applies only to the states that were lawfully taxing Internet access before the original enactment of the Internet Tax Freedom Act in 1998. The definition of "Internet access" that applies to the Section 1104(a) grandfather clause is the definition as set forth in the 1998 Internet Tax Freedom Act, as the amended definition does not take effect until November 1, 2003. Those states that were grandfathered under the Internet Tax Freedom Act from 1998 to 2003 will continue to be grandfathered under Section 1104(a).

Section 1104(b), the provision for pre-November 2003 taxes, applies only to those states that were taxing telecommunication services purchased, used, or sold by an Internet access provider to provide Internet access,

such as Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) access technology, if they were doing it lawfully prior to November 1, 2003. The amended definition of "Internet access" in the Internet Tax Freedom Act is effective November 1, 2003 and applies to section 1104(b). Section 1104(b) expires November 1, 2005 in order to eliminate any "tax on Internet access" (as defined in Section 1104(10)) regarding telecommunications services purchased, used or sold by an Internet access provider for the purpose of providing Internet access.

Finally, in making the Internet Tax Freedom Act technology neutral, this law now protects consumers from taxes on all Internet access technologies, including dial-up, DSL, cable modem, satellite and wireless. A consumer may even purchase Internet access from two Internet access providers without the threat of taxes. He may use one service to browse the Internet and the other service primarily for e-mail and content services. Both Internet access services are protected from state and local taxation under this law. This law is a significant accomplishment on behalf of all American consumers and maximizes consumer choice and access.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
RICHARD E. MEADE

**HON. JIM NUSSLE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, the circle and legacy of service to the United States continues every year without end here in Congress.

Members of Congress and our professional staff arrive and depart, and because that departure may seem to go without notice, those who depart may wonder whether their service has in fact made a difference, and in some manner secured the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity.

I cannot bear witness to all that I have encountered in this circle of service, but, I will try for the departure of one very special friend.

Richard E. Meade has served me, the Congress, and the United States of America professionally, effectively, and unselfishly for over fifteen years.

He has served me as my Chief of Staff for both my Iowa Congressional office and the House Budget Committee.

During his tenure, his professional approach was one identified with integrity of purpose,

quality of work product, and sincerity and honesty to every person he encountered, from the Speaker of the House to a citizen from Iowa.

One of the many beauties of America is that our freedom is more precious and important than any one person, and yet, without that "mere person" who is willing to serve freedom, respect freedom, and defend freedom, freedom could not exist.

Richard E. Meade is such a person who during his life has been willing to serve, respect and defend American freedom, and in doing so, has helped secure the blessings of liberty for all of us, and for his lovely wife Elizabeth and their precious daughter Constance.

Soon, memories of that service, like the memories of the service of so many others, may fade, and good people will step forward and continue in the legacy of quality service to the freedom we have all come to expect and too often take for granted. The circle of service continues.

My humble words of appreciation cannot, and will not, equal the quality and quantity of service you provided me and our country, but Rich, I offer them with my ultimate respect and sincere gratitude for your many years of dedication to me and our liberty. Mr. Speaker, I simply say, Rich Meade, thank you for my freedom!